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Lest we forget – soldier shot in Iraq flown home

By George Welch

HEAVY rain did not prevent dozens of people paying their respects to a British soldier killed in Iraq.

Lance Corporal Hetherington, of 2nd Battalion, The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment, died on January 2, following an incident at Camp Taji, north of Baghdad.

The 22-year-old new dad from Middleton, Greater Manchester, died in what is believed to be a tragic accident during a training exercise.

His body was flown back to Britain on an RAF C17 Globemaster plane and landed at RAF Brize Norton on the afternoon of Thursday last week.

Draped in a union flag, the coffin of the popular soldier was carried to a waiting hearse by soldier pallbearers to the sound of a military band.

Family members paid their tributes to L/Cpl Hetherington at a specially designed memorial garden in Carterton before the cortege travelled to the John Radcliffe Hospital in Headington where a post-mortem examination took place.

The soldier, who was nicknamed 'Snowball', was a member of Blenheim Company and a vehicle commander in the Force Protection Platoon.

He leaves behind a girlfriend and baby daughter.

The Ministry of Defence confirmed his death on January 3 and colleagues left their own words of tribute.

Lieutenant Colonel Rob Singleton, Commanding Officer, 2nd Battalion, The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment, said: "Lance Corporal Scott Hetherington was a superb soldier and a first class leader.

"Utterly professional and talented, he was full of character, fun and his enthusiasm was infectious.

"The battalion has lost a huge talent and a real character. He will be missed dearly and we will never forget him.

"Our hearts go out to his parents, his siblings, his girlfriend and his young daughter. They are in all of our thoughts."

Lance Corporal Lynch, Force Protection Platoon, Blenheim Company, 2nd Battalion The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment, said: "Snowball was a top bloke. You could always count on him to have a laugh, and he always had an answer for everything.

"He was such a big character. He will be greatly missed by the whole Battalion."

The Ministry of Defence has so far refused to confirm the circumstances of the 22-year-old's death.

They only stated that the tragedy on January 2 was not the 'result of enemy

• Continues on page 3

Picture: Ministry of Defence

• Soldiers and members of the public lined the route paying their respects as the cortege carrying Lance Corporal Scott Hetherington drove from RAF Brize Norton. Centre, Scott Hetherington (Picture: Sian Hetherington/Facebook)

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Have your say on plan to shake-up the NHS

By George Welch

OXFORDSHIRE'S NHS could undergo a major shake-up after plans for a transformation of the county's medical services were released this week.

Proposals include closing around 200 acute hospital beds, centralising stroke and critical care and a shake-up of services at the Horton General Hospital, including moving its Special Care Baby Unit to Oxford.

The NHS in Oxfordshire has launched a consultation asking residents what they think about the possible changes to Oxfordshire's healthcare services amid sweeping cuts across the organisation.

'The Big Consultation' is lasting for three months, consisting of 12 sessions in almost two months across the county, with the first to take place in Banbury on January 26.

Proposals were announced by the Oxfordshire Healthcare Transformation Programme (OHTP) on Monday, and Phase 1 of the consultation, which focuses on acute hospital services, will run until April 9.

The proposals follow 'The Big Conversation' last summer, when the public, volunteers and charities had informal conversations with NHS clinicians and staff to share ideas on how health services in the county should be run.

Feedback from all the groups has been considered and the proposals for change have been developed using this feedback, together with the opinions and expertise of clinicians and senior NHS leaders, the OHTP said.

Phase 1 proposals impact acute hospital services, such as surgery, medical care, emergency care and tests, and are based on the policy of moving care away from medical centres and into the home.

The OHTP constitutes the OCCG, the Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust (OHFT), the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust, South Central Ambulance NHS Foundation Trust (SCAS), and the Oxfordshire GP federations and Oxfordshire County Council (OCC).

These groups joined together to consider how health services in Oxfordshire can be developed and improved amid swingeing cuts.

Health chiefs are attempting to tackle a forecasted £200m funding gap by 2020.

The consultation documents outline changes to the following services:

- The way hospital beds are used and increasing care closer to home
- Planned care services at the Horton General Hospital
- Acute stroke services
- Critical care
- Maternity services

According to Dr Joe McManners, clinical chairman at the OCCG, these changes are being considered now because the quality of care for patients will be affected if decisions are delayed.

He also added that some of these services do not meet national clinical best practice recommendations.

David Smith, chief executive of the OCCG, has urged residents for feedback on the proposals.

He said: "We are now launching a public consultation for three months and would like you to share your views on these proposed changes.

"We want to hear from people who use services in Oxfordshire - patients, carers, residents young and old, and people who work in our health services."

Consultations will be held on:

Date	Time	Location
Thursday, January 26	7pm-9pm	Banbury
Thursday, February 2	2pm-4pm	Chipping Norton
Tuesday, February 7	3pm-5pm	Wantage
Thursday, February 9	7pm-9pm	Oxford
Monday, February 13	10am-midday	Didcot
Thursday, February 16	6pm-8pm	Witney
Tuesday, February 21	3pm-5pm	Bicester
Monday, February 27	10.30am-12.30pm	Brackley
Thursday, March 2	8pm-10pm	Henley
Monday, March 6	8pm-10pm	Wallingford
Thursday, March 16	7pm-9pm	Banbury
Thursday, March 23	6.30pm-8.30pm	Abingdon

Help shape your health services

THE Oxfordshire Clinical Commission Group (OCCG) is inviting local residents to submit questions and attend a board meeting on Thursday. January 26.

The meeting will be held at Jubilee House on Oxford Business Park between 9am to 12.45pm.

Chief executive David Smith will update the public on the progress the OCCG is making to improve patient care further, and a report on its finances.

Mr Smith said: "The board meeting is an opportunity for members of the public to hear about the progress we're making to commission high quality health services in Oxfordshire.

"We encourage members of the public to attend the meeting and help shape health services."

The agenda items will be available on the OCCG website from a week prior to the meeting.

Meetings such as this one are held about once every two months.

The OCCG kicked off public discussions to do with the transformations in June to October 2016.

Consultations began on Monday.

Questions for the board meeting on Thursday can be submitted at least 48 hours before the meeting to: oxon.gpc@nhs.net.

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Healthcare changes: your chance to get involved

OXFORDSHIRE residents are being urged to attend a board meeting of the county's official health and social care watchdog to find out more about proposed changes in healthcare.

Some of the county's most senior health officials will talk about changes across Oxfordshire's NHS at Healthwatch Oxfordshire's board meeting on Tuesday.

Rosalind Pearce, executive director of Healthwatch Oxfordshire, said: "Health and care services in Oxfordshire are going to undergo huge changes, as providers get to grips with meeting rising demand, changing health needs and less money to spend.

"This will be a valuable opportunity to hear directly from Oxfordshire's top decision-makers, and we urge people to come along, listen to the presentation and have their say."

Dr Joe McManners, chairman of the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, and David Smith, the organisation's chief executive, will give a presentation on Health Transformation – the process which will set out how the county's changing health needs may be met over the next few years – before the board meeting.

The meeting will take place at Benson Parish Hall, Sunnyside, Benson, near Wallingford, with the Health Transformation presentation taking place from 4pm to 5pm and the Healthwatch Board meeting starting at 5.15pm.

Members of the public can submit questions to the Healthwatch Oxfordshire Board by email, post or telephone, up to five working days before the meeting.

There will also be a period of 15 minutes at 5pm during which the public will have an opportunity to speak to the board members.

The public will also be able to ask questions at the end of each agenda item.

Other items on the agenda will include updates on Healthwatch Oxfordshire's most recent activities, and a progress report on the organisation's conversion to a charity.

The full agenda and papers can be viewed at tinyurl.com/h463hhn.

Longer wait for superfast broadband connections

By George Welch

PROPERTIES in west Oxfordshire without superfast broadband will have to wait a little longer for their internet speeds to increase after a project to increase connectivity fell through.

Cotswolds Broadband received backing to deliver increased internet speeds across west Oxfordshire in 2015 but recently announced: "Due to circumstances beyond our control we have had to make the difficult decision to withdraw from the project."

Nevertheless, West Oxfordshire District Council (WODC) has said it will take "the lead role" in delivering superfast broadband to the remaining 10 per cent of properties in the district that are currently without access.

According to the council, Cotswolds Broadband and its supplier, ITS Technology Group, withdrew from the rollout following network build issues.

WODC and Government agency Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) are now looking to pick up Cotswolds Broadband's job and have confirmed that public sector funding remains available to make this happen.

The District Council said their new project will start immediately and will begin with a formal Open Market Review (OMR).

This will be followed by a public consultation to determine which premises need connections before confirming a new supplier.

It is estimated that this process could take in the region of six months with the build starting three months after that, the council said.

Cllr Colin Dingwall, cabinet member for broadband at WODC, said: "It is very disappointing that Cotswolds Broadband's project failed after so much hard work. The delay for residents is really frustrating.

"Taking on the procurement process ourselves demonstrates that we are absolutely committed to securing superfast broadband access for everyone in the district as soon as possible.

"We are working very closely with BDUK on the new project and are confident that it can be delivered successfully."

While the project is carried out, those with little or no connectivity (under 2Mbps) can apply for a subsidised basic service through the Government's Better Broadband Scheme.

More information, including an application form, can be found at http://tinyurl.com/zgwojom

• *Cllr Colin Dingwall is disappointed at the failure of the project*

Streets lined to pay tribute

• *Lance Corporal Hetherington's body is carried from the plane*
Picture: Ministry of Defence

• *From front page*

activity'.

Mike Penning, the Minister of State for the Armed Forces, said an investigation into the "tragic incident" is under way.

According to figures published in 2016, the UK lost 179 servicemen and women during the campaign that followed the invasion of Iraq on March 20, 2003.

The British military mission came to an end in April 2009.

Camp Taji serves as a training site for the Iraqi Army, some of whom are trained to fight against the so-called Islamic State.

• *Lance Corporal Scott Hetherington*
Picture: Ministry of Defence

Attacks on two female dog walkers linked

A SECOND female dog walker has been attacked in the space of a month in Carterton.

The latest attack took place on January 9 at about 6.10am on a footpath alongside the White Bridge between Brome Way and Northwood Crescent.

A 48-year-old woman was walking her dog when a man approached her, shouted "phone" and grabbed her.

She dropped her dog's lead and the dog bit the thief on his left arm before the woman and her dog ran away to safety towards Lilac Way.

The suspect fled in the opposite direction towards Monahan Way and did not get away with any of the victim's property.

Police described the man as white, aged about 25, 5ft 10ins tall with a medium build and fair/blonde spiky hair. He was wearing a plain black jacket with a zip at the front, dark jeans and black gloves.

Police added that he had a strong Eastern European accent.

It is the second such attack in Carterton in the past month and police believe the incidents are linked.

Investigating officer PC Shelley Slater, of Witney Local Area CID, said: "In both incidents lone women were walking their dogs in unlit areas.

"Understandably both victims have been left very shaken from the incident."

Contact police on 101.

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United warning: We may have to find a new ground

By George Welch

• Oxford United director Darryl Eales and fellow board members have written to Oxvox

OXFORD United have warned the club might have to find a new home after voicing their 'dismay' at the slow progress of talks over the ownership of the Kassam Stadium.

The club responded on Monday to a statement published by Oxvox, the U's supporters trust, on Saturday, saying they would be "disappointed" if they failed to reach an agreement with Firoz Kassam, the stadium owner, before the end of the season.

Oxvox, Mr Kassam and Oxford City Council have been negotiating since October last year to make the stadium community owned.

But Oxvox's statement has provoked an immediate and strongly worded response from the club's directors, saying an agreement should be made long before the end of the season.

"There is no reason why an outline of the deal cannot be signed in weeks, even days, and not months as suggested," the club said.

The directors added that ambitions of building long-term, sustainable success for the club would be "extremely difficult under the current circumstances".

This includes 'retrenching the club's ambitions', 'narrowing horizons', a review of the playing budget and support of the academy, and "even looking at playing elsewhere until we find a new, permanent home".

Overall, implications of the stadium ownership "will have a major impact on our ability to plan for the future", the club admitted.

The United statement was written by board of directors Steve Dolton, Darryl Eales, David Jones, Simon Kelner, Peter Lee, Lionel Tarassenko and Greig Box-Turnbull.

They said: "While we continue to support the efforts being made to find a solution, we call on Oxvox, Firoz Kassam and the Oxford City Council to accelerate the process for the good of the club, the fans, and to safeguard the future of OUFC."

The statement continued on to say the directors find it "strange that we are not included" in discussions over the stadium, which currently excludes Oxford United.

They added: "As the tenant, we are clearly a very interested party, and without any direct involvement, we continue to be left in the dark as to how the final deal may impact the club and indeed when such a deal is likely to be finalised.

"We remain happy to join the negotiations at any stage."

Oxvox said it had begun "constructive and positive discussions" with Mr Kassam about buying the 12,500-seat stadium in October last year.

News Bites

Help needed to find missing girl

OXFORD: Police are appealing for information to trace a missing girl from Oxford.

Lauren Bone, 16, was last seen on Thursday last week in Headington.

She is described as 5ft 7ins tall, medium build, ginger hair, worn in a bun, but shaved at the back. She has a scar on her left hand, and was seen wearing a reversible blue Adidas jacket with white stripes.

Investigating Officer, DI Jonathan Capps, said: "We are asking anyone who has information about Lauren's whereabouts to come forward, or if anyone has spotted someone matching her description we would ask them to get in touch.

"We would also say that if Lauren sees this appeal herself then please call us, you are not in any trouble we just want to know that you are safe."

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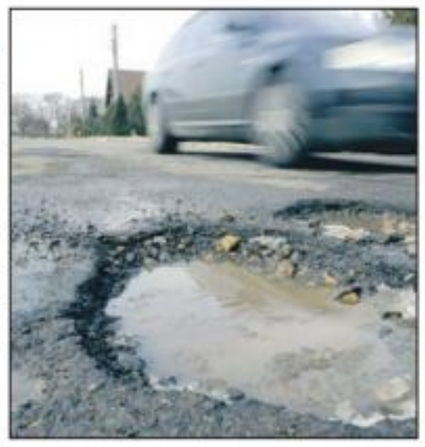
Pothole funding hole filled with new government cash

By George Welch



OXFORDSHIRE MPs have been celebrating National Pothole Day by welcoming investment dedicated to fixing damaged roads.

The Department for Transport (DfT) announced a £70m fund to fix potholes across the country in November and revealed Oxfordshire would benefit from £1,315,000 – enough to fix almost 25,000 potholes.

Oxfordshire's allocation of £1.3m is only beaten in the South East by Surrey (£1.35m), Hampshire (£2.1m) and Kent (£2.2m).

With National Pothole Day on Monday, John Howell, MP for Henley, welcomed the investment.

He said on Friday: "The state of our roads is consistently raised with me by local residents across the constituency and remains a great source of frustration for drivers.

"This funding is welcome news for families and businesses in Oxfordshire who rely on our roads to get around."

On Friday, the Government formally announced the cash as part of a £1.2 billion fund for local roads allocated to councils to repair and rebuild transport links.

The Conservatives said the funding would improve roads, cut congestion and improve journey times.

This will include money from the new National Productivity Investment Fund, announced in the 2016 Autumn Statement and the Pothole Action Fund.

It also includes £75 million which councils can bid for to repair and maintain local infrastructure such as bridges, street lighting and rural roads.

MP for Witney, Robert Courts raised similar issues to Mr Howell.

He said the concerns of his residents over the quality of roads was "why I made better roads part of my Five Point Plan in the by-election [last October]".

Last year the Local Government Association urged immediate investment, claiming otherwise the pothole repair backlog on English roads would take 14 years to complete.

Following the recent distribution of funds, a total number of 24,800 potholes across the county will be fixed or stopped from forming.

In response to being told the figure in November, the Labour candidate in Witney's October by-election said: "Is that all – [that] doesn't sound like enough."

He added: "Any extra addition is welcome. As a result of my (and others) efforts and campaigning, there has been an improvement.

"It is important that people keep reporting pot holes and remind councillors to do their duty."

According to a report in last year's autumn statement, it costs £53 on average to fill a pothole.

■ Tell us what you think about the state of the roads where you live? Send us your pothole pictures to news@oxfordshireguardian.co.uk

£60m regeneration plans on display

THE £60m plans to "revitalise the heart of Cowley" at Templars Square will be on show this month for the public to view.

The owner of the site, NewRiver, will be presenting its final plans for its development at two public information drop-in sessions this month.

The sessions will be held before the application to Oxford City Council is determined later this year.

The drop-ins will provide the community with the opportunity to view the proposals, and put forward questions to the development team.

The new development at the shopping centre will boast a hotel, new restaurant units, a streetscape and pedestrian routes, car parking, as well as 200 one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments, including affordable housing.

In response to previous consultations about the development, Councillor Dave Henwood expressed concern about the social housing plans.

He also spoke about the impact it could have on ArkT, a charity endorsing the arts through creative workshops and music classes.

He said: "The developer will need to justify why they are not meeting the 50 per cent threshold for social housing. This viability study will need to be submitted to city council officers to scrutiny."

He added: "Generally the plans for the regeneration of the city centre have been well received. The Cowley regeneration includes a wide range of housing, which should be welcomed.

• Images of how the revitalised Templars Square could look – members of the public are invited to have their say on the plans on Friday and Saturday (inset - The current Templars Square)

"Residents have however raised concerns on parking and the impact of demolishing the car park next to the church, and the impact on classes run at ArkT who run specialist classes for vulnerable children and adults."

Cllr Henwood arranged a meeting for ArkT residents to attend on Monday.

Allan Lockhart, property director of NewRiver, said: "We're delighted to have submitted planning and to now present our exciting proposals again to the local community to show how we've incorporated previous feedback.

"This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to revitalise the heart of Cowley and these drop-in sessions demonstrate our long term investment in the town and our continuing commitment to work in partnership with the local community."

About 57 jobs would be created, NewRiver said, as well as 300 construction jobs.

The two drop-in sessions will be held in Bank Court within Templars Square Shopping Centre on Friday from noon to 5pm, and Saturday from 10am to 4pm.

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• Alistair Yeomans and Debbie Swailes (front) plant a tree with the team from North Oxfordshire Property Services

Digging deep to plant trees

THE North Oxford Property Services (NOPS) staff left their desk jobs for the day to kick off a special tree-planting scheme run by environmental charity the Sylva Foundation.

A team of five people from the Jericho-based property firm travelled to the Future Forest project in Long Wittenham where they planted 25 native Hornbeam trees.

The Future Forest is based at a three-hectare plot being developed by the Sylva Foundation.

NOPS is the first to sponsor the scheme.

The firm's director Debbie Swailes said: "It was fantastic to play a small part in this fantastic project.

"Not only did we feel better for the fresh air, we know we can watch our plot develop over the next few years and look forward to visiting it again soon."

Alistair Yeomans, chief operating officer at the Sylva Foundation, said: "The NOPS team really enjoyed themselves and we hope many more businesses sign up to sponsor their own plot."

The Sylva Future Forest features 300 plots of 25 trees each, all of which are available for individuals or businesses to sponsor.

Funding drop forces centre to cut services

By Eva Astreinidou

A FAMILY support centre has announced it is facing a reduction of 87 per cent in its service from January 30 due to lack of funding.

Donnington Doorstep centre has been unable to find replacement funding for the drop-in service following the withdrawal of Oxfordshire County Council's financial support in March 2016.

The management team explored many funding options and were able to secure sufficient funding to maintain their specialist services.

However, they could not secure enough to ensure the open access drop-in stays open for its full service hours.

In August last year the team decided to close their Saturday sessions, followed by their weekday afternoon sessions in October.

The team said the drop-in service will be available only on Wednesdays from 10am to 1pm.

They said: "We are devastated by this loss, and by the impact it will have on our staff.

"We know that our weekday drop-in service and café are a key way that people get to know us as an organisation, and we are bitterly disappointed at this reduction."

They added: "We are privileged to have a wonderful and diverse team, who have been working with determination and dedication amidst uncertainty."

Christine Simm, chair of Donnington Doorstep trustees, said: "It is heart-breaking to have to announce that we can no longer provide our daily drop-in.

"The drop-in is the heart of Doorstep; for more than three decades we have offered a friendly welcome, fantastic play opportunities, and support to local families.

"We are now facing the greatest crisis we have ever confronted; I would appeal to all parents, grandparents and carers who have come to Doorstep and loved it to get behind us in our campaign to 'Save Doorstep Drop-In'. The alternative is too devastating to contemplate."

Councillor Lawrie Stratford, cabinet member for finance at the county council, said: "Unfortunately the centre did not meet the criteria for further funding.

"The transition fund was set up for centres that we own. It is public money so we need to ensure that it meets the needs of the whole county. We can't bypass these rules."

The services that will continue include the family support work, youth work, the specialist Child Sexual Exploitation service, and their pre-school, thanks to funders and individual donors.

The team held a crisis meeting yesterday evening and they will be lobbying the county council to approve their second application to the transition fund on January 24.

Many centres are facing threat of closure across Oxfordshire, as the county council has cut funding to more than half of its children's centres.

A High Court challenge to the plans was dismissed in August.

News Bites

Hire bike from your phone

OXFORD: A new cycle-hire scheme at Oxford Parkway station allows customers to hire a bike using their smartphone.

Chiltern Railways have partnered with Bainton Bikes and Donkey Republic to offer the service.

Users can unlock the bikes parked outside the station through the Donkey Republic app. Hiring prices start from £7.50 for two hours. To book, visit baintonbikes.com.

Officers honoured

OXON: Seven officers and police staff have received commendations for their actions in the response to the crash on the A34 in August that saw a woman and three children killed.

Insp Andy Storey, Sgt Jack Hawkins, Det Sgt Gavin Collier, PC David Beeson, PC John Simpkins, PC Philip Hanham, Ellie Selby and Lucy Billen were honoured on Tuesday.

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Motor enthusiasts scramble to see best of vintage car display

THOUSANDS of vintage car enthusiasts descended on the historic motoring site at Bicester Heritage for the Sunday Scramble.

More than 2,500 members of the public and vintage fans visited the community for the first open day of 2017 on January 8.

More than 1,000 cars lined up across the 348-acre former RAF base in Oxfordshire.

Motorcycles and aeroplanes were also showcased.

The historic cars featured included plenty of vintage 4.5 litre Bentleys, Vauxhall 30-98s and a beautiful Aston Martin Ulster with masses of race history.

Visitors also got a chance to see some of the buildings of RAF Bicester before Bicester Heritage rolls out its fourth phase of restoration.

The site is due to expand by 30,000 square feet of workshop, office and engineering space.

Bicester Heritage events also include the Flywheel Festival, which takes place in the summer.

• *All images by: Amy Shore Photography*

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For more information and to register, visit BicesterVillage.com/jobfair

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News Bites

Join in 10k run

OXFORD: Runners of all abilities are invited to take part in this weekend's 10k Run Series in Oxford.

The MCC Promotions run will take place at Horspath Athletics Track and Sports Ground between 9.30am and 10.15am this Sunday.

The route is four laps around the track, four laps around the sports ground, and a final 200 metres around the track.

It is a fast course with potential for a personal best.

Entries will be accepted on the day, at a cost of £15 to include a T-shirt and a medal.

The first three runners will receive trophies.

2015 was a record-breaking year for the race, with George Meager running the course in 35:26 and Charlotte McGlone completing it in 37:44.

Record sales

OXFORD: Local Volvo dealership Johnsons of Oxford has helped achieve a 25-year high in sales.

Johnsons of Oxford has played its part in securing the Swedish manufacturer's highest overall UK sales figures for a quarter of a century, with 46,696 cars sold in 2016.

Volvo Cars achieved a third consecutive year of record global sales, selling 534,332 cars in 2016.

Pupils to show art at Christ Church Cathedral during a week of prayer

By George Welch

PUPILS at an Oxford-based Catholic school have had a creative start to the new year by participating in an art project ahead of Unity Week, a Christian week of prayer.

Year 5 pupils at Rye St Antony School on Pullens Lane have had their paintbrushes out to bring artistic talent and religion together after being invited to get arty by Christ Church Cathedral.

The youngsters' contribution from the day and boarding school will include a six-panel installation to be displayed at the cathedral between January 18 and 25, the week of prayer.

Inspired by Oxford-based artist Nicholas Mynheer, work has been well under way for the youngsters under the direction of the school's head of art and design.

The project has invited young people from across the city to take part in an art programme that depicts the need to care for creation and Rye St Antony's contribution will follow the theme of shelter.

The school said the project is "a way of acknowledging that much division and disunity in the world arises from consumption, greed and wastefulness in contemporary society".

The panels will provide a focal point for the Service of Unity on the evening of January 22 at Christ Church.

Commenting on the school's contribution to the project, Rye St Antony's head of art and design Jenny White said: "Each of these panels will seek to draw connections between the story of creation in Genesis and the contemporary challenge to overcome hostility and division by caring for the planet.

"The children's idea to develop a background of harmonious colours was an inspirational starting point [for the theme of Shelter], and they also discussed shelter in the form of trees.

"Our Year 5 pupils have thrown themselves into this project and we are absolutely thrilled to be involved."

As part of the project, the tallest member of the class laid down on the canvas and her classmates drew around her and her outstretched arms to form the foundation of the painting.

Classmates then added their own arching arms and curved hands until it gradually turned into a tree shape, which became shelter for a pair of doves.

St Andrew's Primary School in Headington, St Margaret's Church Art Group and St Barnabus Primary School are among the other groups taking on a panel each.

• *Rye St Antony Year 5 pupils with their art work which will be displayed in Christ Church Cathedral as part of Unity Week*

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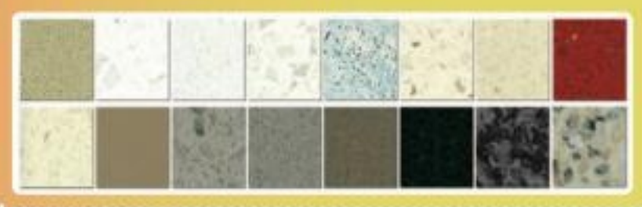

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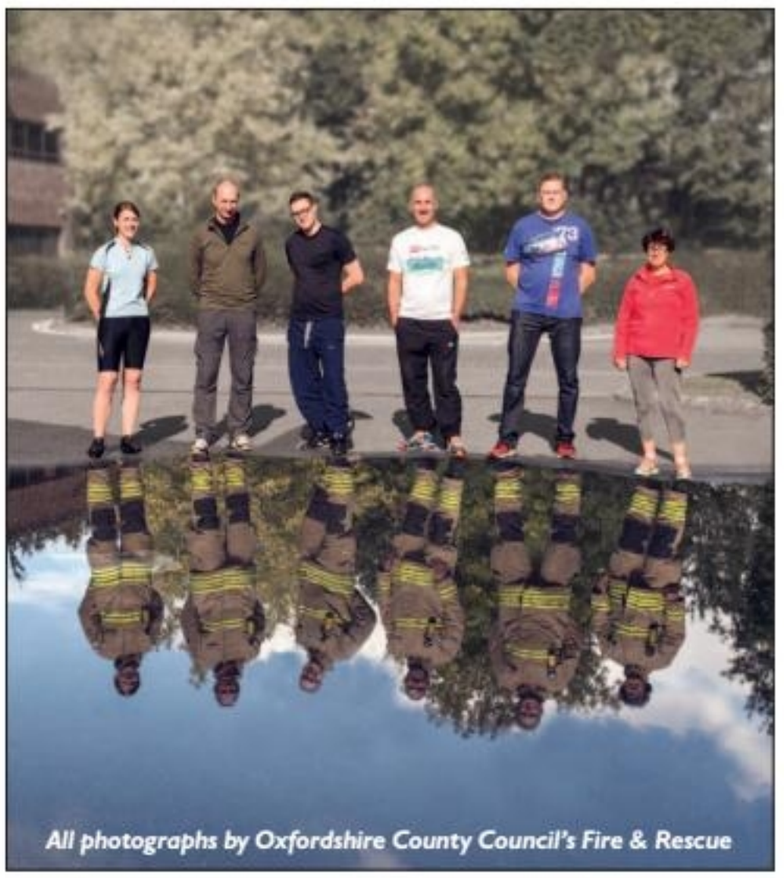
Shout out for retained firefighters to sign up



All photographs by Oxfordshire County Council's Fire & Rescue

By Samantha McGregor

OXFORDSHIRE fire service is looking to recruit 40 new retained firefighters to cover the county's stations.

People across the county are being urged to sign up as on-call firefighters to respond to emergencies in their areas.

All of Oxfordshire's fire stations have on-call teams that make up 60 per cent of the county's operational fire and rescue service. In total, 18 out of 24 stations are now crewed solely by on-call firefighters.

Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service said it wants to attract 40 new male or female retained firefighters by the end of the year.

Paul Bremble, group manager for people and organisational support, said: "We have fantastic crews of on-call firefighters spread across Oxfordshire but as a number of them are moving on we're looking for more people to join the teams that are protecting their local community.

"There is no typical firefighter and we employ men and women from all walks of life.

"We ask for a minimum commitment of 40 hours on-call per week which sounds a lot but on average you are called out 2-3 times per week for an hour at a time.

"The hours are different to suit the needs of the station and individual circumstances, so the role can be flexible."

On-call firefighters generally have other jobs and will be alerted to an emergency incident and have five minutes to get to their local fire station.

The role is paid – on call firefighters earn between £5,000 and £9,000 and receive the same training as regular firemen.

Potential recruits must have a reasonable level of fitness.

Amy Palmer, an on-call firefighter at Wheatley Fire Station, said: "I became an on-call firefighter as I wanted to give back to my community and it's a fantastic way to stay active and challenge yourself.

"It is a big commitment as you have to stay within five minutes of the station whenever you're on call, but you get to choose your hours and as team spirit is a huge part of the fire service, people will always try to cover you if you need the time off."

The next training course starts in June. For more information people can drop into their local fire station or view oxfordshire.gov.uk/oncallfirefighters

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Thanks for your help with Blue Skye Appeal

LAST year the Oxfordshire Guardian's Charity of the Year was Blue Skye Thinking and we launched a campaign with them – The Aim Skye High appeal.

Blue Skye Thinking was set up in 2014 as a legacy for five-year-old Abingdon boy Skye Hall, who died later that year from the side effects of his aggressive cancer treatment.

Since it was set up, the charity has raised a phenomenal amount of money and has funded a four-year research project into childhood brain tumours.

Since the tragic death of their son, parents Sally and Andrew Hall have made it their mission to raise awareness about childhood cancers and to find more funding for research.

Together, we asked for your help, as our readers and the charity's supporters, to help them fund a new researcher through the Aim Skye High appeal.

The Aim Skye High Appeal aims to raise £50,000 towards a three-year Post Doctoral research position at the renowned Northern Institute for Cancer Research.

Sally Hall with her son Skye

And during this campaign we reported on how the charity has inspired many people across Oxfordshire – and the country – to get out there and fundraise for a magnificent cause.

Oxfordshire Guardian's Charity of the year 2016 Aim SKYE HIGH APPEAL

The charity motivated a whole series of events to raise money and awareness, including a firewalk at the Nag's Head pub in Abingdon, a London to Paris cycle ride, a marathon run, hair-dying and even a momentous climb up Mount Kilimanjaro.

As the Oxfordshire Guardian and our sister paper The Oxford Paper announce their supported charity for 2017, we would like to congratulate Blue Skye Thinking on all their fundraising efforts so far and wish them all the best for the future.

You can still support the appeal at tinyurl.com/hgpvzyr, or text UPUP52 £3 to 70070

To plan your own 'Skye High' fundraising event, email: aimskyehigh@blueskythinking.org and the charity will send a fundraising pack.

Play2Give - our charity for 2017

10th Anniversary Play2Give

Play2Give (P2G for short) is a Didcot Business and Community Awards award-winning Oxfordshire fundraising organisation formed in 2007 by Didcot's Andrew Baker who teamed up with a small group of friends.

From what started out as a single football tournament event to the ever-growing organisation that it is of today,

Play2Give has proved to be hugely successful and year on year grows and grows, raising money each year for local charities through organising many events and fundraising initiatives. Currently, they have donated over £52,360.

This year marks the charity's 10th anniversary and there are a whole variety of fundraising events planned you can get involved in.

One of their key events will be a skydive - are you brave enough to jump out of a plane from 13,000ft from Hinton Airfield?

But they are also looking for people to brave the Monster Race at Cornbury Park in April. Find out more about all the events they have planned at play2give.org.uk/events.html

This year Play2Give is raising funds for Oxford Children's Hospital and Headway Oxfordshire.

We'll be running regular features on Play2Give and telling you about how you can get involved with this great cause and help make it's 10th anniversary even more special.

Next week we'll be telling you more about the charity and all the work it does and more on the causes it is supporting this year.

Find out more about them at play2give.org.uk

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Blenheim Palace 10k run out to strike gold in UK Running Awards

By George Welch

THE British Heart Foundation (BHF) is calling on runners to help the charity strike gold at the UK Running Awards by voting for the charity's Blenheim Palace 10km as the best 10km run in the UK.

One of the largest events organised by the heart research charity, the BHF's Blenheim Palace 10km is in the frame after getting through the first round of voting to make it into the top 12 finalists.

And now, the charity is appealing to Oxfordshire residents for a big push for votes that will help them claim the top 10km running event in the UK.

The Blenheim Palace half marathon, 10km and 2km fun-run, which has taken place in early October for the past seven years, has helped the charity raise funds for it's fight against heart and circulatory disease.

Around 4,000 runners took part in 2016 to raise more than £200,000 for the BHF's life saving research, which aims to improve the lives of those affected by heart disease.

• Runners set off for the Blenheim Palace run

Money raised goes towards funding over 1,000 research projects across the UK, to find new ways to diagnose, prevent and treat heart disease.

The route gives runners a chance to conquer the grounds of the Blenheim Palace Estate, a route that is packed full of stunning scenery and jaw-dropping views.

BHF Event Manager Leanne Postlethwaite said: "We're incredibly proud to be shortlisted for a UK Running Award. It's such an amazing event to be a part of."

You can vote for the Blenheim Palace 10km at this year's UK Running Awards at therunningawards.com. Voting closes on March 20.

This year's events take place on October 1.

Firm sets sail on new adventure

OXFORDSHIRE marine firm Williams Jet Tenders met with industry minister Jesse Norman at the London Boat Show to discuss their business and future opportunities in a growing marine industry.

British Marine, the organisation hosting the event, welcomed the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy at the show on January 9, where he met with businesses in the marine industry.

Mr Norman said: "The UK maritime sector is an important industry for the UK, adding over £11 billion to the UK economy and I was delighted to visit the show and see for myself the success of our marine and maritime businesses.

"We will continue to work with industries to further upgrade productivity, create high skilled jobs, and ensure sustainable economic growth."

Mathew Hornsby, sales director at Williams Jet Tenders, said: "The marine industry needs high profile visits to allow a greater understanding of how areas of the industry are hugely significant to the UK in terms of the skills and services they enhance."

Howard Pridding, chief executive officer of British Marine, said: "It's been an ideal place to provide the Minister with a full familiarisation with the success of our £3.01bn UK marine industry."

• From left, President of British Marine David Pougher, Jesse Norman MP, Williams sales director Matthew Hornsby, chief executive of British Marine Howard Pridding and below, Jesse Norman MP views one of the boats with Matthew Hornsby Pictures: London Boat Show & OnEdition

Mr Norman's visit coincided with the release of the industry's latest statistics, which show that the UK's leisure marine industry is responsible for revenues not seen since the financial crash.

Revenue in the South East has grown by over £99 million in the last year with an additional 1,475 full-time roles being created in the region.

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Vandalism and poor weather hit zip wires launch

By Samantha McGregor

THE weather and vandals have delayed the opening of new zip wires in three Bicester parks.

Work started last autumn on a £100,000 project to refurbish children's parks in Shakespeare Drive, Lucerne Avenue, in Bure Park, and Holm Square, in Southwold.

Most of the work has been completed, but turf on mounds built for the zip wires has yet to take and until it does, the new facilities can not be opened.

Among the work that took place at the park in Holm Square, Southwold, was the installation of new play frames, poles and boards, while the play area in Bowmont Square, off Shakespeare Drive, has got a large pyramid style climbing net and new grass mounds and matting.

Bure Park's Lucerne Avenue park has been extended, a zip wire and large pyramid style climbing net will be added as well as new grass mounds and matting. The current equipment has been painted and repaired.

• *The opening of the zip wire in Bure Park is eagerly awaited*

New astroturfing of the mounds in Garth Park has been installed after wear and tear problems with natural grass.

The work, funded by Bicester Town Council, has cost more than £105,000. A grant from Tesco for £2,276, from 5p plastic bag charge introduced by shops, has been put towards the project.

Garth Park was the first of the town's parks to get a makeover.

A £200,000 café was built on the footings of the former eco town show-house, which was based in the park for several years, while a further £160,000 was spent on new modern play facilities.

Dog rescue drama

A DOG owner is happy after being reunited with her collie dog who went walkabout on the A34.

Last Friday, Cherwell District Council's staff were emptying layby litterbins on the A34 when they spotted the animal running amongst fast moving traffic.

Council staff and other motorists quickly realised what was going on and positioned their vehicles to slow down the traffic, so they could capture the frightened animal.

He was caught after 10 minutes and has since been returned to his owner.

Cllr Debbie Pickford, Cherwell's lead member for clean and green, said: "We are really pleased that this drama was brought to a happy end by the fast-thinking of our street cleansing operatives and members of the public."

She urged dog owners to be careful when letting their pets off their leads and to ensure dogs were registered. Miss Pickford said: "Since we shared news of the rescue on social media, we've seen a surge of people applying to register their dogs, which is the best way for dog owners to ensure that their pets can be returned to them if they do go missing."

The owner, a resident of West Oxfordshire, had been searching for her pet for 90 minutes before she got a call to say he was safe and sound.

She told the council that after being reunited with the four-year-old dog, she gave him a warm bath and reports that he is now feeling much better.

Cherwell offers a free dog tag registration service.

For details visit www.tiny.cc/dog-registration

• *The rescued Collie, safe after going for a walk on the busy A34*

News Bites

New skills

BICESTER: Jobseekers can boost their abilities by learning new skills in upholstery, DIY and up-cycling.

Organised and run by Bicester Green, seven sessions will take place from now until February 21.

Bicester Green, based in Mckay Trading Estate, Station Approach, works with volunteers from all walks of life to reduce waste by refurbishing furniture, bikes and electronic devices, selling them on at affordable prices to the community.

Courses will run every Tuesday between 11am and 2pm. Further information, including the dates of the sessions, is available via 01869 388 564 and info@bicestergreen.org.uk

Inmate caught

BICESTER: Police have arrested a 35-year-old man in connection with an incident where an inmate escaped from Springhill Open Prison, near Bicester, on Friday, January 6.

The man, believed to be Gavin Burnett, is now securely back in custody.

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Competition

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THE LONDON CLASSIC CAR SHOW | 23 – 26 FEB 2017 | EXCEL LONDON

WIN tickets to the glittering London Classic Car Show – the capital's premier celebration for any classic car enthusiast, collector or buyer.

Now in its third year, the 2017 show – which will be held at ExCeL London from 23-26 February – will be the biggest and best yet. And, with more than 700 of the world's most stunning classic cars on display plus innovative features such as The Grand Avenue, Car Club Square and the brand new Historic Motorsport International, it really isn't to be missed. We have five pairs of Sunday tickets to giveaway in this special competition.

Highlights include a 'red sea' of fabulous Ferraris, celebrating the legendary Italian company's 70th birthday. Among the mouth-watering £100m collection on show will be eye-catching greats such as the wondrous GTO, Daytona, Dino and F40.

Another popular feature is The Grand Avenue, a ground-breaking roadway running through the very centre of the display stands. It means The London Classic Car Show is no mere static exhibition but a living, breathing homage to the automobile where visitors can not only see but also hear their favourite classics in action.

Closing date: Friday, February 17

The 2017 London Classic Car Show is also certain to attract many celebrities from the motoring world. The roll-call from previous years includes F1 stars Jenson Button and David Coulthard, TV's James May and racing icon Sir Stirling Moss. More big names are promised for 2017.

Advance tickets to the 2017 London Classic Car Show are available from the show website – thelondonclassiccarshow.co.uk – with adult admission priced from just £24.

WIN TICKETS!

To win a pair of tickets to Sunday's show, simply answer this simple question:

Q: Which legendary Italian car manufacturer will be celebrating its 70th birthday at the 2017 London Classic Car Show?

Maserati, Ferrari or Lamborghini?

Jodie Kidd and Jenson Button are two of the motoring celebs who have visited the show.

To enter this competition and more like it, go online to

www.oxfordshireguardian.co.uk

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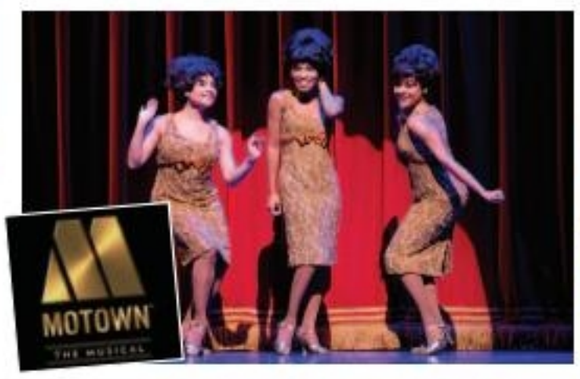

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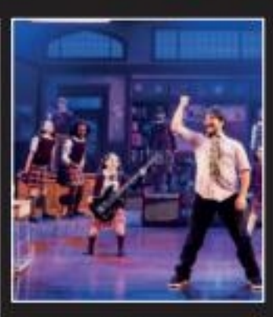

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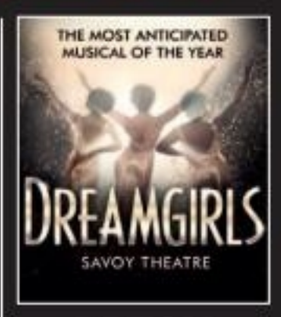

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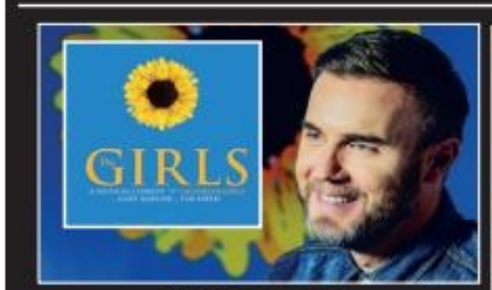

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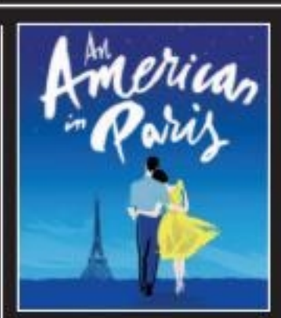

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Two speed crossword

Quick Clues Across

4 Appalled (6)
8 Thorn (7)
9 Try (6)
10 Compelling (9)
11 In this place (4)
13 Performed (5)
14 Gave (7)
16 In place of (7)
18 Way of speech (5)
19 Poems (4)
21 Doctor (9)
22 Pictures (6)
23 Venerated (7)
24 Strives (6)

Quick Clues Down

1 Surpass (9)
2 Unforeseen events (9)
3 Musical instrument (5)
5 Insect (4)
6 More spacious (6)
7 In rows (6)
9 Express contempt (5)
11 Pains (9)
12 Made new (9)
15 Ways (5)
16 Antiseptic (6)
17 Calm (6)
20 willow (5)
21 Nuisance (4)

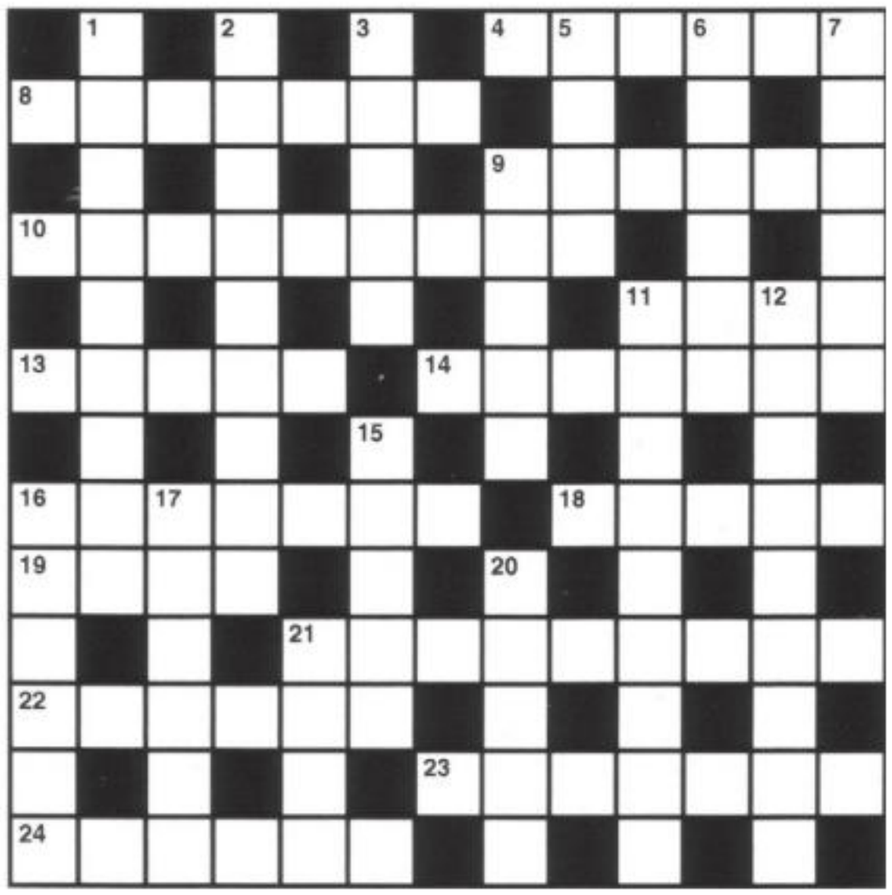
Scribble space

Cryptic Clues Across

4 A religious man can be firm (6)
8 The 15 by which a judge might hold two thousand dollars? (7)
9 Food for the parasite (6)
10 Lock in the ones who are performers (9)
11 A standard flower (4)
13 Sudden thrust that with a quiet start could be a dive (5)
14 To experience again the end of the ache inside will bring comfort (7)
16 Rub around the climate (7)
18 Deserve a different mitre (5)
19 The editor, for example, goes back to the margin (4)
21 Steady! Rye cocktails can bring back the recent past (9)
22 Sounds like the larger type of mill (6)
23 Exult about a Ulyssean author, by the sound of it (7)
24 Discourages those who rested out (6)

Cryptic Clues Down

1 Broke the great emperor, in short, about to do the old city (9)
2 Amount to an opening round Mr Peck (9)
3 Control the French wood (5)
5 Hints on putting up a barbecue? (4)
6 The clumsy performance of Napoleon initially in a call to war (6)
7 Mere upset before the example arises to come into view (6)
9 Break off relations with the visionary, and start a veto inside (5)
11 Dismiss the evidence as being incombustible (9)
12 Having overturned the cells, I do a jig - to celebrate the escape? (9)
15 Bar the last head always (5)
16 Firmly fixed as occidentally bordered (6)
17 Horrified at what the flag has to show (6)
20 Unqualified to speak? (5)
21 Time the sun's beam comes up round the East (4)



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Puzzles

Sudoku

The objective is to fill a 9×9 grid with digits so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3×3 sub-grids that compose the grid (also called "boxes", "blocks", "regions", or "sub-squares") contains all of the digits from 1 to 9. The puzzle setter provides a partially completed grid, which for a well-posed puzzle has a unique solution.

EASY/MEDIUM/HARD

4			7	2		6	1	
		7	3		4		2	
	5	8	1			3		
6	8			3	5			7
9		5				2		6
3			2	6				8
		4			2	5	8	
	1		5		9	4		
	2	6		8	3			

	7	4		5		1	9	
	6		2		1		7	
3	5						1	2
8		6				3		9
7	4						5	6
	1		9		6		3	
	8	5		4		2	6	

		8					9	4
3			7				1	
	1	5	8			6		
	7		3					
1								2
					2		5	
		9			3	5	7	
	3				9			8
4	6					9		

This week's solutions

4	3	9	7	2	8	6	1	5
1	6	7	3	5	4	8	2	9
2	5	8	1	9	6	3	4	7
6	8	2	9	3	5	1	7	4
9	7	5	8	4	1	2	3	6
3	4	1	2	6	7	9	5	8
7	9	4	6	1	2	5	8	3
8	1	3	5	7	9	4	6	2
5	2	6	4	8	3	7	9	1

2	7	4	6	5	8	1	9	3
1	9	8	4	3	7	6	2	5
5	6	3	2	9	1	4	7	8
3	5	9	8	6	4	7	1	2
8	2	6	1	7	5	3	4	9
4	1	7	3	2	9	8	5	6
7	4	1	9	8	6	5	3	2
6	3	2	5	1	2	9	8	4
9	8	5	7	4	3	2	6	1

6	2	8	5	3	1	7	9	4
3	9	4	7	2	6	8	1	5
7	1	5	8	9	4	6	2	3
8	7	2	3	4	5	1	6	9
1	5	3	9	6	7	4	8	2
9	4	6	1	8	2	3	5	7
2	8	9	4	1	3	5	7	6
5	3	1	6	7	9	2	4	8
4	6	7	2	5	8	9	3	1

Quick Crossword

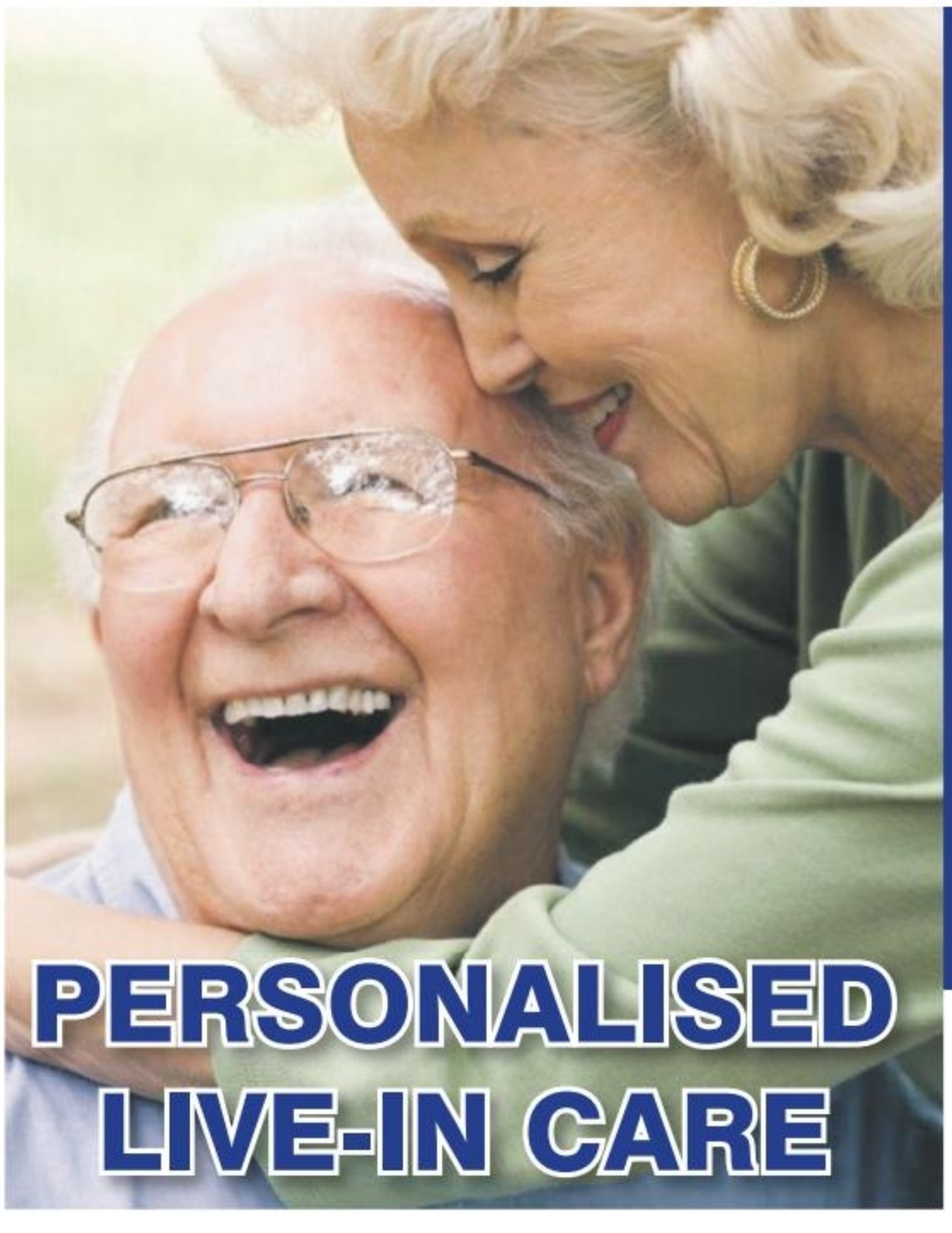
Across: 4 Aghast 8 Prickle 9 Sample 10 Insistent 11 Here 13 Acted 14 Offered 17 Instead 18 Idiom 19 Odes 21 Physician 22 Images 23 Revered 24 Exerts

Down: 1 Transcend 2 Accidents 3 Flute 5 Gnat 6 Ampler 7 Tiered 9 Sniff 11 Headaches 12 Renovated 15 Paths 16 Iodine 17 Sedate 20 Osier 21 Pest

Cryptic Crossword

Across: 4 Stable 8 Trigger 9 Sponge 10 Actresses 11 Flag 13 Lunge 14 Relieve 16 Weather 18 Merit 19 Edge 21 Yesterday 22 Greater 23 Rejoice 24 Deters

Down: 1 Fractured 2 Aggregate 3 Leash 5 Tips 6 Bungle 7 Emerge 9 Sever 11 Fireproof 12 Avoidance 15 Lever 16 Wedged 17 Aghast 20 Utter 21 Year



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Advertising Feature

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For more details about Ferendune Court call free on 0808 102 4392 or visit anchor.org.uk

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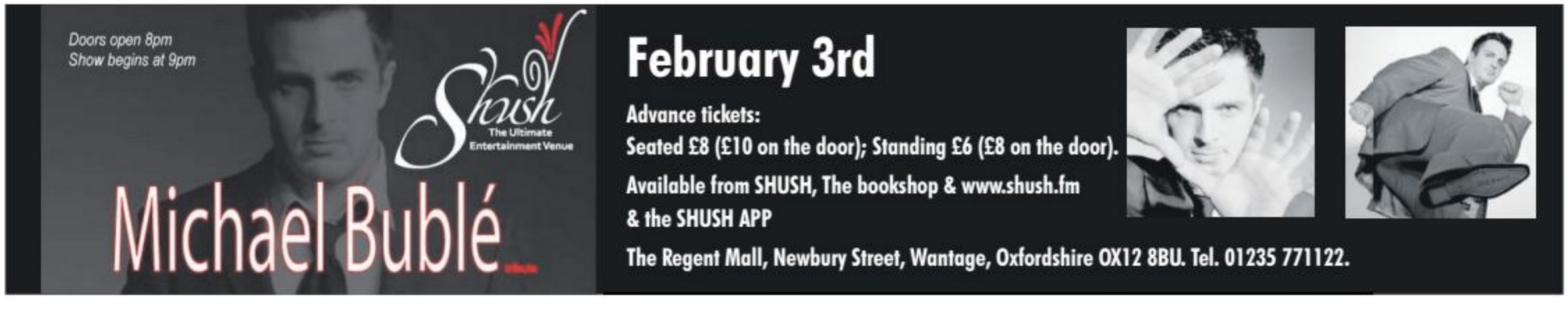
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Saturday January 21st

BBC1

Casualty, 8.25pm

6.00 Breakfast (S) **10.00 Saturday Kitchen** (S) **11.30 The Best Dishes Ever** (S)(R) **12.00 Football Focus** (S) **1.00 BBC News;** Weather (S) **1.15 Live Snooker: The Masters** (S) **4.30 Final Score** (S) **5.10 BBC News** (S) **5.20 BBC Regional News; Weather** (S) **5.30 Who Dares Wins** (S) **6.10 Pointless Celebrities** Various TV experts are challenged to take part in the unorthodox quiz show. (S)

7.00 Let It Shine Mel Giedroyc and Graham Norton host a third round of auditions, as more would-be pop princes perform in front of the judges. (S)

8.25 Casualty Iain is reunited with his youth offender sister Gem. (S)

9.15 Taboo James Delaney makes an unlikely alliance with Dr Dumbarton. (S)

10.10 BBC News; Weather; (S) National Lottery Update (S)
10.30 Match of the Day Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches. (S)

11.55 The NFL Show Mark Chapman looks ahead to the Conference Championship games. (S)

12.25 FILM Paycheck (2003) (12) Thriller, starring Ben Affleck. (S) **2.20** Weather for the Week Ahead (S) **2.25** BBC News (S)

BBC2

Tennis: Australian Open Highlights, 3.05pm

6.30 FILM Mary of Scotland (1936) (12) (S) **8.30 FILM I Know Where I'm Going! (1945) (U)** (S) **10.00 Secret Britain** (S)(R) **11.00 Homes Under the Hammer** (S)(R) **12.00 Exploring China: A Culinary Adventure** (S)(R) **1.00 Debbie Reynolds: Talking Pictures** (S) **1.30 FILM Bundle of Joy (1956) (U)** (S) **3.05 Tennis: Australian Open Highlights** (S) **4.30 Live Snooker: The Masters** (S) **5.30 Only Connect** (S)(R) **6.00 Thailand: Earth's Tropical Paradise** (S)(R)

7.00 Live Snooker: The Masters Hazel Irvine presents coverage of the second semi-final, played over the best of 11 frames. (S)

10.30 FILM Looper (2012) (15) A hitman employed to kill people who have been sent back in time finds his latest target is his future self. Sci-fi thriller, with Joseph Gordon-Levitt. (S)

12.20 Snooker: The Masters – Extra (S) **2.20** This Is BBC Two (S)

ITV

Ninja Warrior UK, 7pm

6.00 CITV 7.30 Scrambled! 9.25 ITV News (S) **9.30 Rebound** (S)(R) **10.25 Guess This House** (S)(R) **11.25 Judge Rinder** (S)(R) **12.30 ITV News;** Weather (S) **12.35 River Monsters** (S)(R) **1.05 Big Star's Little Star** (S)(R) **2.05 Tipping Point** (S)(R) **3.05 The Chase** (S)(R) **4.05 Dance Dance Dance** (S)(R) **5.35 ITV Regional News;** Weather (S) **5.45 ITV News** (S) **6.00 You've Been Framed! and Fearless** (S)

7.00 Ninja Warrior UK Competitors test their strength, speed and courage in this obstacle-course challenge. (S)

8.00 The Voice UK Emma Willis presents the third round of blind auditions. (S)

9.30 Through the Keyhole Marvin Humes, Kate Garraway and Jimmy Carr are challenged to discover the identities of three more mystery celebrities. Hosted by Keith Lemon. (S)

10.30 ITV News; Weather (S)
10.45 FILM I Am Legend (2007) (15) Sci-fi thriller, with Will Smith and Alice Braga. (S)

12.30 Jackpot247 3.00 Who's Doing the Dishes? (S)(R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen

Channel 4

Grand Designs, 5.20pm

6.20 The King of Queens (S)(R) **7.35 Everybody Loves Raymond** (S)(R) **8.30 Frasier** (S)(R) **9.30 The Big Bang Theory** (S)(R) **10.50 The Simpsons** (S)(R) **11.50 Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast** (S)(R) **12.55 Come Dine with Me** (S)(R) **3.30 A Place in the Sun: Summer Sun** (S)(R) **4.15 Location, Location, Location** (S)(R) **5.20 Grand Designs** (S)(R) **6.15 Channel 4 News** (S) **6.40 FILM Snow White & the Huntsman (2012) (12)** (S)

9.00 FILM The Other Woman (2014) (12) Premiere. A woman discovers her boyfriend is married, and joins forces with his wife and a third lover to get revenge. Comedy, starring Cameron Diaz, Leslie Mann and Kate Upton. (S)

11.10 FILM The Watch (2012) (15) Sci-fi comedy, starring Ben Stiller and Vince Vaughn. (S)

1.00 Hollyoaks (S) **3.10** The Secret Life of 6 Year Olds (S)(R) **4.00** Shipping Wars UK (S)(R) **4.40** Kirstie's Fill Your House for Free (S)(R) **4.55** Location, Location, Location (S)(R) **5.50** The King of Queens (S)(R)

Channel 5

NCIS, 8pm

6.00 Milkshake! 8.00 Big Bash Cricket Melbourne Stars v Sydney Sixers. (S) **11.35 FILM Escape to Victory (1981) (PG)** Second World War adventure, starring Michael Caine (S) **1.50 Police Interceptors: Takedown** An illegal driver sees red when his car is seized. (S)(R) **2.20 The Yorkshire Vet** (S)(R) **6.15 NCIS: Los Angeles** The team investigates a shoot-out at a pawn shop. (S)

7.05 NCIS: Los Angeles A former Navy intelligence officer is killed (S)

8.00 NCIS Bishop and McGee pose a a married couple to investigate a US Marine's murder. (S)
8.55 5 News Weekend (S)

9.00 Football on 5: The Championship George Riley an Lynsey Hipgrave introduce action from the latest fixtures, which included Queens Park Rangers v Fulham. (S)

10.00 Football on 5: Goal Rush The latest matches from Leagues One and Two. (S)
10.30 Celebrity Big Brother The ups and downs of life in the BB house. (S)

11.35 Lip Sync Battle UK: Katie Price vs Ben Fogle Hosted by Melanie Brown and Professor Green. (S) (R)

12.05 SuperCasino 3.10 Celebrity Big Brother (S)(R) **4.00** Celebrity Botched Up Bodies (S)(R) **4.50** Divine Designs (S)(R) **5.15** Divine Designs (S)(R) **5.40** Angels of Jarm (S)(R) **5.50** Roary the Racing Car (S)(R)

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ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 Pixie Lott: The Hot Desk **6.10** Emmerdale **8.45** Coronation Street **11.15** Ninja Warrior UK **12.20** FILM: Horrid Henry: The Movie (2011) (U) Children's comedy, starring Theo Stevenson. **1.20** FYI Daily **1.25** FILM: Horrid Henry: The Movie (2011) (U) Concluded. **2.10** FILM: Space Jam (1996) (U) Live action and animated comedy, with Michael Jordan. **3.10** FYI Daily **3.15** FILM: Space Jam (1996) (U) Concluded. **3.55** FILM: Hotel Transylvania (2012) (U) Animated comedy, with the voice of Adam Sandler. **4.55** FYI Daily **5.00** FILM: Hotel Transylvania (2012) (U) Concluded. **5.45** FILM: The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (2012) (12) Fantasy adventure, starring Martin Freeman and Ian McKellen. **6.45** FYI Daily **6.50** FILM: The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (2012) (12) Concluded. **9.00** FILM: Hellboy II: The Golden Army (2008) (12) Action fantasy sequel, starring Ron Perlman. **10.00** FYI Daily **10.05** FILM: Hellboy II: The Golden Army (2008) (12) Concluded. **11.20** Family Guy **12.50** American Dad! **1.45** Dads **2.10** Safeword **2.45** Rixton: The Hot Desk **2.55** Teleshopping **5.55** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 Judge Judy **6.20** Murder, She Wrote **9.15** FILM: Columbo: How to Dial a Murder (1978) (PG) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk. **10.50** A Touch of Frost **12.50** Lewis **2.50** Wycliffe **4.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **6.00** Midsomer Murders **8.00** Doc Martin **9.00** Midsomer Murders **11.00** Lewis **1.00** Blue Murder **2.00** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

7.00 Patagonia with Huw Edwards **8.00** Treasures of the Indus **9.00** Lost Kingdoms of Central America **10.00** The Young Montalbano **11.40** Top of the Pops: 1983 **12.55** Imagine – Sir Roderick Stewart: Can't Stop Me Now **2.20** Rod Stewart Live at Hyde Park **3.20** Sounds of the 70s **3.50** Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

6.00 Rude(ish) Tube **6.20** Young & Hungry **7.05** Black-ish **8.05** Melissa & Joey **9.00** Baby Daddy **10.00** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **10.10** FILM: Astro Boy (2009) (PG) Animated sci-fi adventure, with the voice of Freddie Highmore. **12.00** Black-ish **1.00** The Goldbergs **3.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **4.00** FILM: The Addams Family (1991) (PG) Black comedy, starring Anjelica Huston. **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** FILM: Terminator Salvation (2009) (12) Sci-fi thriller sequel, starring Christian Bale. **11.10** Gogglebox **1.10** Rude Tube: Rude Zoo **2.10** Rude Tube: Extreme Rides **3.05** Chewing Gum **3.30** Virtually Famous **4.10** How I Met Your Mother **4.50** Revenge

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 Food Unwrapped **9.15** Come Dine with Me **11.35** Homes by the Sea **12.40** Location, Location, Location **1.40** Coast vs Country **2.40** Four in a Bed **5.25** Come Dine with Me **8.00** The Crossrail Discovery: London's Lost Graveyard **9.00** FILM: Amy (2015) (15) Documentary portrait of singer-songwriter Amy Winehouse. **11.40** Amy Winehouse: Live at Shepherd's Bush Empire **12.45** 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown **2.50** The Crossrail Discovery: London's Lost Graveyard

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 The Day the Earth Stood Still (1951) (U) Sci-fi drama, starring Michael Rennie. **1.00** Flight of the Navigator (1986) (U) Sci-fi adventure, starring Joey Cramer. **2.45** The Lost World (1960) (U) Fantasy adventure, starring Claude Rains. **4.40** One Fine Day (1996) (PG) Romantic comedy, starring George Clooney and Michelle Pfeiffer. **6.50** The Time Traveler's Wife (2009) (12) Romantic sci-fi drama, starring Rachel McAdams and Eric Bana. **9.00** Lone Survivor (2013) (15) Fact-based Afghanistan war drama, starring Mark Wahlberg. **11.20** Dressed to Kill (1980) (18) Thriller, starring Michael Caine. **1.30** Black Swan (2010) (15) Drama, starring Natalie Portman. **3.45** Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

7.05 Rocket City Rednecks **7.55** Deadliest Pests Down Under **9.00** Storage Hunters **10.00** Steve Austin's Broken Skull Challenge **12.00** Traffic Cops **1.00** Top Gear **2.00** QI XL **4.00** Top Gear **7.00** Red Dwarf **9.00** Mock the Week **11.00** Have I Got a Bit More News for You **1.00** QI **2.00** Crackanory **2.35** Parks and Recreation **3.25** The Indestructibles **4.00** Close

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.10 Pie in the Sky **11.00** Sharpe **1.00** Pie in the Sky **5.00** One Foot in the Grave **7.00** Hetty Wainthropp Investigates **8.00** Jonathan Creek **9.00** Wallander **11.00** Waking the Dead **1.00** Hetty Wainthropp Investigates **2.00** Daniel Deronda **3.35** Garden Hopping **4.00** Close

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 Ashley Banjo's Big Town Dance **7.00** Monkey Business **8.00** The Big Spell **9.00** The Fantasy Football Club **10.00** Soccer AM **11.30** What's Up **12.00** Football's Funniest Moments **12.30** Futurama **3.30** Modern Family **7.00** The Simpsons **8.00** NCIS: Los Angeles **9.00** FILM: Star Trek (2009) (12) Sci-fi adventure, starring Chris Pine and Zachary Quinto. **11.30** A League of Their Own US Road Trip **12.30** Duc Quacks Don't Echo **1.30** Karl Pilkington: The Moaning of Life **2.30** Police Force: Australia **5.00** Road Wars

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108

6.00 The West Wing **11.00** Micro Monsters with David Attenborough **3.00** Without a Trace **8.00** Blue Bloods **9.00** FILM: Spy Game (2001) (15) Thriller, starring Bra Pitt. **11.25** Mike Tyson: Undisputed Truth **1.10** The Wi **2.25** Funny or Die Presents **3.00** Without a Trace **4.00** Networks of Power with Sir Christopher Meyer

W SKY: 109

6.00 Best in Town **7.00** Traffic Cops **8.00** The Bill **1.0** EastEnders **3.30** Bin There, Dump That **4.00** Extreme Makeover: Home Edition **6.00** My Family **8.00** Inside the Ambulance **9.00** FILM: Scream 2 (1997) (18) Horr sequel, starring Neve Campbell **11.15** Inside the Ambulance **12.15** The Strain **3.00** Home Shopping

GOLD SKY: 110

7.00 Blandings **7.30** Lovejoy **10.30** The Best of Tommy Cooper **11.00** Last of the Summer Wine **12.20** Only Fools and Horses **8.00** We Have Been Watching **9.00** Citizen Khan **11.00** Stewart Lee's Comedy Vehicle **12.20** Steve Coogan: Live 'n' Lewd **1.40** Time Trumpet with Armando Iannucci **2.05** Bellamy's People **2.40** Nighty Night **3.10** Human Remains **4.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY: 401

6.00 Football Gold **7.00** Football's Greatest Players **8.00** Game Changers **8.30** Premier League Preview **9.00** The Fantasy Football Club **10.00** Soccer AM **11.3** Premier League Preview **12.00** Live EFL. Queens Park Rangers v Fulham (kick-off 12.30pm). **3.00** Gillette Soccer Saturday **5.15** Live EFL. Barnsley v Leeds Unite (kick-off 5.30pm). **8.00** EFL Goals **8.30** Nissan Game the Day. Hayley McQueen presents a full re-run of the day's top Premier League match. **10.30** Nissan Match Choice **11.30** Premier League Highlights

Sunday January 22nd

BBC1

Match of the Day 2, 10.30pm

6.00 Breakfast (S) **7.35 Match of the Day** (S)(R) **9.00 The Andrew Marr Show** (S) **10.00 The Big Questions** (S) **11.00 Sunday Politics** (S) **12.15 Bargain Hunt** (S)(R) **1.00 BBC News;** Weather (S) **1.15 Homes Under the Hammer** (S)(R) **2.15 Flog It!** (S)(R) **3.15 Escape to the Country** (S)(R) **4.15 Lifeline** (S) **4.25 Songs of Praise** (S) **5.00 Spy in the Wild** (S)(R) **6.00 BBC News** (S) **6.20 BBC Regional News; Weather** (S) **6.30 Countryfile** (S)

7.30 Still Open All Hours Granville tries to sell a huge wheel of cheese. (S)

8.00 Call the Midwife New series. Nonnatus House comes under new management in the shape of the formidable Sister Ursula (Harriet Walter). (S)

9.00 Apple Tree Yard New series. Thriller based on Louise Doughty's novel about a scientist who has an affair that leads to a violent incident. With Emily Watson. (S)

10.00 BBC News (S)
10.20 BBC Regional News; Weather (S)
10.30 Match of the Day 2 Mark Chapman reviews the day's Premier League action. (S)

11.40 A Question of Sport Light-hearted quiz, hosted by Sue Barker. (S)(R)

12.10 The Celebrity Apprentice USA (S) **1.35** Weather for the Week Ahead (S) **1.40** BBC News (S)

BBC2

Ski Sunday, 6.15pm

6.15 Coast (S)(R) **7.15 A to Z of TV Gardening** (S)(R) **8.00 An Island Parish: Anguilla** (S)(R) **8.30 The Edible Garden** (S)(R) **9.00 Countryfile** (S)(R) **10.00 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites** (S) **11.30 Talking Snooker** (S) **12.15 MOTD2 Extra** (S) **1.00 Live Snooker: The Masters** (S) **5.15 Tennis: Australian Open Highlights** (S) **6.15 Ski Sunday** The men's downhill from Kitzbuhel in Austria. (S)

7.00 Live Snooker: The Masters Hazel Irvine presents concluding coverage of the final. Subsequent programmes are subject to change. (S)

11.00 QI XL With Johnny Vegas, Ronni Ancona and Jimmy Carr. (S)
11.45 FILM Good (2008) (15) Drama, starring Viggo Mortensen and Jason Isaac. (S)

1.15 Sign Zone: Question Time (S)(R) **2.15** Holby City (S)(R) **3.15** This Is BBC Two (S)

ITV

Dance Dance Dance, 6.30pm

6.00 CITV 7.30 Scrambled! 9.25 ITV News (S) **9.30 Countrywise: Guide to Britain** (S)(R) **10.00 Peston on Sunday** (S) **11.00 Gino's Italian Escape: Hidden Italy** (S)(R) **11.30 Chopping Block** (S)(R) **12.30 ITV News;** Weather (S) **12.35 Judge Rinder** (S)(R) **1.35 Tipping Point** (S)(R) **2.35 Ninja Warrior UK** (S)(R) **3.35 The Voice UK** (S)(R) **5.05 ITV Regional News;** Weather (S) **5.15 ITV News** (S) **5.30 The Chase: Celebrity Special** (S)(R) **6.30 Dance Dance Dance** (S)

8.00 Endeavour Morse is assigned to protect an informant who is undergoing emergency surgery, and becomes fixated on a series of mysterious deaths. (S)

10.00 ITV News; Weather (S)
10.15 Peston on Sunday Political magazine, presented by Robert Peston, with ITV News National Editor Allegra Stratton. (S)(R)

11.15 The Cube Phillip Schofield invites Nathalie Hannath and Adam Bedford to put their skills to the test in the high-pressure contest. (S)(R)

12.15 Jackpot247 3.00 Chopping Block (S)(R) **3.50 ITV Nightscreen 5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show: DNA Bombshells (S) (R)

Channel 4

Walking the Americas, 8pm

6.15 The King of Queens (S)(R) **7.10 Everybody Loves Raymond** (S)(R) **8.30 Frasier** (S)(R) **9.30 Sunday Brunch** (S) **12.30 The Simpsons** (S)(R) **1.30 FILM Tooth Fairy (2010) (PG)** (S) **3.30 A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun** (S) **4.15 Location, Location, Location** (S)(R) **5.20 Channel 4 News** (S) **5.50 FILM The Day After Tomorrow (2004) (12)** Disaster thriller, starring Jake Gyllenhaal. (S)

8.00 Walking the Americas Levison Wood travels along a string of volcanoes in Nicaragua. (S)

9.00 Homeland New series. Carrie returns to the US with Franny to work as an advocate for Muslim Americans, while Dar and Saul brief President-elect Keane. Claire Danes stars. (S)

10.05 FILM Trainspotting (1996) (18) A heroin addict tries repeatedly to kick the habit. Danny Boyle's drama, starring Ewan McGregor and Robert Carlyle. (S)

11.55 The 90s: Ten Years That Changed the World Kathy Burke narrates this look back at the 1990s revolution in British music, fashion and media. (S)(R)

1.20 How to Lose Weight Well (S)(R) **2.15** Millionaires' Mansions: Designing Britain's Most Exclusive Homes (S)(R) **3.10** The Autistic Gardener (S)(R) **4.05** Kirstie's Fill Your House for Free (S)(R) **4.10** Location, Location, Location (S)(R) **5.05** Location, Location, Location (S)(R)

Channel 5

Dads Make You Laugh Out Loud, 6.30pm

6.00 Milkshake! 9.55 The Fairly OddParents (S)(R) **10.30 Football on 5: The Championship** (S)(R) **11.20 Football on 5: Goal Rush** (S)(R) **11.55 Funniest Fails, Falls & Flops** (S)(R) **12.20 Brides Make You Laugh Out Loud** (S)(R) **1.20 FILM Kangaroo Jack (2003) (PG)** (S) **3.00 FILM George of the Jungle (1997) (U)** (S) **4.45 FILM Herbie: Fully Loaded (2005) (U)** (S) **6.30 Dads Make You Laugh Out Loud** (S)

7.30 The Adele Story Documentary charting the career of pop and soul singer Adele. (S)(R)

8.55 5 News Weekend (S)

9.00 Celebrity Big Brother The ups and downs of life in the BB house as friendships and alliances are made, battle lines are drawn and arguments erupt. (S)

10.00 Celebrity Botched Up Bodies Danielle Lloyd prepares for a seventh operation on her breasts. (S)

11.05 FILM Just Go with It (2011) (12) Romantic comedy, starring Adam Sandler and Jennifer Aniston. (S)

1.10 SuperCasino 3.10 FILM Universal Soldier (1992) (18) Sci-fi thriller, starring Jean-Claude Van Damme. (S) **4.50** Divine Designs (S)(R) **5.15** Divine Designs (S)(R) **5.40** Angels of Jarm (S)(R) **5.50** Roary the Racing Car (S)(R)

DIGITAL

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 You've Been Framed! Gold **6.25** Emmerdale **9.00** Coronation Street **11.30** The Voice UK **1.00** 2Awesome **1.05** 2Awesome: Guidance **1.40** 2Awesome: Side Effects **2.20** 2Awesome: Third Wheel **2.40** 2Awesome: LA Story **3.00** FILM: Looney Tunes: Back in Action (2003) (PG) Live action and animated comedy, starring Brendan Fraser. **4.05** FYI Daily **4.10** FILM: Looney Tunes: Back in Action (2003) (PG) Concluded. **4.45** FILM: Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang (2010) (U) Fantasy comedy, starring Emma Thompson. **5.45** FYI Daily **5.50** FILM: Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang (2010) (U) Concluded. **6.55** FILM: The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (2013) (12) Fantasy adventure sequel, starring Martin Freeman. **7.55** FYI Daily **8.00** FILM: The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (2013) (12) Concluded. **10.00** Family Guy **11.55** American Dad! **12.55** The Cleveland Show **1.50** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.20** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 George and Mildred **6.25** FILM: The Mirror Crack'd (1980) (PG) Miss Marple mystery, starring Angela Lansbury. **7.25** FYI Daily **7.30** FILM: The Mirror Crack'd (1980) (PG) Concluded. **8.35** Heartbeat **10.40** Murder, She Wrote **12.40** Wycliffe **1.50** Sherlock Holmes: The Hound of the Baskervilles **4.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **6.00** Midsomer Murders **8.00** This Time Next Year **9.00** Tonight at the London Palladium **10.00** Birds of a Feather **10.35** FILM: Wimbledon (2004) (12) Romantic drama, starring Kirsten Dunst and Paul Bettany. **11.35** FYI Daily **11.40** FILM: Wimbledon (2004) (12) Concluded. **12.40** A Touch of Frost **2.20** Wycliffe **3.15** May the Best House Win **5.00** Rising Damp **5.25** ITV3 Nightscreen

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

7.00 David Starkey's Music & Monarchy **8.00** Sword, Musket & Machine Gun: Britain's Armed History **9.00** Titanic's Tragic Twin: The Britannic Disaster **10.00** Hidden Killers of the Post-War Home **11.00** Horizon: What's Wrong with Our Weather? **12.00** Play It Loud: The Story of the Marshall Amp **1.00** Sound of Musicals with Neil Brand **2.00** Lost Kingdoms of Central America **3.00** Titanic's Tragic Twin: The Britannic Disaster **4.00** Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

6.00 How I Met Your Mother **6.45** Melissa & Joey **7.35** Baby Daddy **8.30** Young & Hungry **9.30** Hollyoaks **12.00** Coach Trip: Road to Marbs **2.35** The Goldbergs **4.30** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** FILM: Colombiana (2011) (15) Action thriller, starring Zoe Saldana. **11.05** Tattoo Fixers **12.10** Virtually Famous **1.05** Gogglebox **1.50** The Goldbergs **2.40** Rude Tube **3.30** Hollyoaks

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 Kirstie's Fill Your House for Free **9.30** Food Unwrapped **9.55** Car SOS **10.55** Building the Dream **12.00** Come Dine with Me **2.35** Four in a Bed **5.15** Come Dine with Me **7.55** Car SOS **9.00** Sarah Millican: Chatterbox Live **10.00** The Big Fat Quiz of Everything **11.40** Father Ted **12.45** 8 Out of 10 Cats **1.35** 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown **2.40** Father Ted **3.40** Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 Gunman's Walk (1958) (PG) Western, starring Van Heflin. **1.00** Short Circuit (1986) (PG) Sci-fi comedy adventure, starring Steve Guttenberg. **3.05** The House of Magic (2013) (U) Animated adventure, with the voice of Murray Blue. **4.45** Time Bandits (1981) (PG) Fantasy comedy, starring Craig Warnock and David Rappaport. **7.00** The Way Way Back (2013) (12) Comedy drama, starring Liam James. **9.00** The Grand Budapest Hotel (2014) (15) Wes Anderson's comedy drama, starring Ralph Fiennes. **11.05** Enemy at the Gates (2001) (15) Second World War drama, starring Jude Law. **1.40** Beginners (2010) (15) Comedy drama, with Ewan McGregor and Christopher Plummer. **3.50** Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

7.00 The Indestructibles **7.20** MegaTruckers **8.10** Top Gear Bolivia Special **9.50** Steve Austin's Broken Skull Challenge **10.50** Traffic Cops **11.50** Jay Leno's Garage **1.50** Top Gear **4.50** Red Bull Soapbox Race **5.50** Top Gear **7.20** Top Gear Bolivia Special **9.00** Have I Got a Bit More News for You **11.00** Crackanory **11.40** Room 101 **12.20** Mock the Week **1.40** Crackanory **2.20** Parks and Recreation **3.10** 8 Out of 10 Cats **4.00** Close

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.10 Pie in the Sky **8.00** The Bill **12.00** Call the Midwife **4.00** Catherine Cookson's The Girl **7.00** New Tricks **9.00** Silent Witness **11.00** Spooks **1.00** Catherine Cookson's The Girl **4.00** Close

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 Hour of Power **7.00** David Attenborough's Galapagos **9.00** Monkey Life **11.00** WWE: Raw **12.00** Ninja Warrior **12.30** Futurama **2.30** Modern Family **4.30** The Simpsons **5.30** The Big Spell **6.30** The Simpsons **8.00** Freddie Down Under **9.00** Hawaii Five-0 **10.00** NCIS: Los Angeles **11.00** The Force: Manchester **12.00** The Force: Essex **1.00** Ross Kemp on Gangs **2.00** Police Force: Australia **5.00** Road Wars

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108

6.00 The West Wing **11.00** Without a Trace **4.00** Blue Bloods **9.00** Obama: The President Who Hoped to Change America **10.00** The Affair **11.10** True Detective **12.20** FILM: Fatherland (1994) (15) Political thriller, starring Rutger Hauer. **2.30** Funny or Die Presents **3.00** The Affair **4.10** Networks of Power with Sir Christopher Meyer

W SKY: 109

6.00 Best in Town **7.00** Bondi Rescue **8.30** EastEnders **11.00** MasterChef Junior USA **4.00** Doctor Who **6.00** Outnumbered **8.00** One Born Every Minute **9.00** Dynamo: Magician Impossible **10.00** Luther **11.20** Code Black **12.20** Bondi Rescue **1.20** The Strain **3.00** Home Shopping

GOLD SKY: 110

7.20 Blandings **7.55** Lovejoy **10.05** Only Fools and Horses **1.00** Citizen Khan **3.00** Only Fools and Horses **9.00** Citizen Khan **11.00** The Thick of It **12.20** Bellamy's People **1.40** Time Trumpet with Armando Iannucci **2.15** Stella Street **2.45** Nighty Night **3.15** Bellamy's People **4.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY: 401

6.00 Premier League Highlights **8.00** The Sunday Supplement **9.30** Goals on Sunday **11.30** Live Nissan Super Sunday. Southampton v Leicester City (kick-off 12.00pm). **2.00** Live Nissan Super Sunday. Arsenal v Burnley (kick-off 2.15pm). **4.15** Live Nissan Super Sunday. Chelsea v Hull City (kick-off 4.30pm). **7.00** Transfer Centre **7.30** Live NFL. The NFC Championship Game (kick-off 8.05pm). **11.00** Live NFL. The AFC Championship Game (kick-off 11.40pm). **2.30** Premier League Highlights. Southampton v Leicester City, Arsenal v Burnley and Chelsea v Hull City. **4.00** Goals on Sunday **5.00** Premier League 100 Club **5.30** Spanish Football Gold

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Tradition and mutual respect

By James Richings

"INSPIRED by New Orleans marching bands, Balkan beats, contemporary hip-hop and rock in equal measure."

This is how Hackney Colliery Band leader Steve Pretty described the band as they prepare themselves for their Didcot show.

Arriving at the Cornerstone Arts Centre on Friday, January 27, the group of nine musicians will perform all the tracks off their latest album 'Sharpener' as well as favourites off their two previous records.

And with the band being no strangers to gigging at the theatre, Steve hopes he can create even more memories in Didcot.

"We opened our tour with a show there back in 2015 and it was great," Steve revealed to the Guardian.

"We're opening the tour there again this year, so it seems to be establishing itself as a bit of a tradition.

"I've also performed my kids show 'Annabelle's Skirtingboard' Adventures there, so it's a venue we're very close to."

Formed in 2008, the group have become a popular name in the world of music with their catchy tunes and frequent changes to the band.

Currently with a line-up of nine musicians, the last nine years have seen

• *The Hackney Colliery Band with Steve Pretty (fourth from left)*

The Hackney Colliery Band change their band members so much, that they nearly have a different line-up every time they go on tour.

With the current line-up having Steve Pretty as the bandleader whilst also playing the trumpet, electronics, composition, Miguel Gorodi also on the trumpet, Ed Rieband and Oxford born Jonathan Sweeney playing the trombone, tenor saxophonist Tom Richards who is also from Oxford, Mike Lesirge on alto saxophone, snare drummer and percussionist Luke Christie, Olly Blackman on bass drum, percussion, drum machine, Ed Ashby on the sousaphone and sound engineer Geoff Southall, Steve strongly believes the show at the Station Road venue will be up there with one of their very best.

And as with most bands, there is a high amount of respect between each member, which Steve believes is one of the reasons for the group's success.

"We have a strict rule in the band, which is encapsulated by the title of our second album 'Common Decency' and it's essentially about mutual respect," he told the Guardian.

"When you spend so much time together, it's so important that there's a good atmosphere.

"It's a small industry, so an early teacher told me that if you want to have some longevity to your career, try to avoid falling out with people.

"You never know who you might be working with further down the road."

Their visit to Didcot is only their second show of their UK tour so far, before they travel to venues in Bristol, Birmingham and London to name just a few.

Steve also revealed the inspiration behind the band's name.

"The name is a tongue-in-cheek homage to the great British brass band tradition," he said.

"We're doing something very different from a traditional colliery band, but see ourselves as part of a great tradition of British brass bands."

Tickets cost from £16 to £20 and it starts at 8pm.

Go on a ghost hunt

THRILLER: The New Theatre will be holding a Ghost Hunt tour tomorrow night, Friday, January 20.

Conducted by Haunted Houses Paranormal Activity, the spooky tour around the George Street venue, will reveal true stories about what happened in the theatre when it opened in 1836.

It starts at 9.30pm and tickets cost £35.

Much Ado at theatre

THEATRE: One of William Shakespeare's most popular plays will be performed at the Unicorn Theatre in Abingdon from Wednesday, January 25 to Saturday, February 28.

Hero and Claudio who are to be married in a week. To pass the time, they conspire with Don Pedro to set a 'lover's trap' for Benedick, an arrogant confirmed bachelor, and Beatrice, his favourite sparring partner in Much Ado About Nothing.

Tickets cost £10.

Big name in the city

LIVE MUSIC: Drum and bass duo Sigma – Cameron Edwards and Joe Lenzie – will be at Oxford's O2 Academy on Saturday, January 28.

Suitable for over 18s, tickets cost £16.97 and the doors open at 11pm.

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Or call 01235 856076
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Compere
Rich Wilson is one of the countries finest comedians and popularly regarded as the UK's best MC by many top comedians, such as Frank Skinner, Richard Herring and Sarah Millican. Rich has been "winning over audiences in seconds" at all the major UK comedy clubs.
"Highly entertaining" Time Out
"Tour-de-force." Leicester Mercury
"He's a very very funny man" Frank Skinner
Nick Dixon is steadily rising on the UK circuit, and is held in high regard by his contemporaries and industry officials alike.
He has recently recorded his second televised stand-up performance, for The Comedy Store on Comedy Central.
"Delightfully offbeat turn of phrase...elegantly constructed writing" Chortle
"Well worth looking out for" Jason Manford
Short spots
Two shorter spots in the middle section
Alex Faroe
Jacob Hawley
Headline Act
Andy Askins is a first class, guitar-wielding comedian with a captivating voice and wickedly dry sense of humour. Andy has an expertly crafted routine littered with an eclectic mix of off beat comic songs and parodies. Popular songs have been rewritten and given a perverse twist to tremendous comic effect. With impeccable timing, his inventive and quirky songs are peppered with inspired patter and the darker material is sweetened by his impish demeanour.
As seen on The John Bishop Show – BBC1
"Dark humour with faultless timing" – The Stage
"An awful lot of charm" – Chortle
Caution: this performance will contain some adult humour as well as occasional bad language
Management Disclaimer: Please note – that while we make every effort, shows can change without notice due to unforeseen circumstances and commitments of artists
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PROPERTY WEEKLY

Thursday, January 19 - Wednesday, January 25, 2017

www.oxfordpropertyweekly.co.uk

This property showcased courtesy of Andrews of Abingdon

Longworth period cottage

AN ATTRACTIVE and contemporary detached period home situated within the village of Longworth has gone on the market.

The small village of Longworth is a couple of miles south of the River Thames on a ridge known as the Golden Ridge.

Within the village there is a primary school and pre-school and The Blue Boar public house. Nearby Southmoor also has a tennis club.

Located to the front of the property is the drawing room which was formerly the main room of the village shop.

The kitchen has been

• *Continues on page 46*

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ABINGDON

Central Abingdon £600,000

- Penthouse Type Apartment
- Large Open-Plan Accommodation
- 3 Double Bedrooms
- Cinema Room / Bedroom 4
- Lift Access

Steventon £445,000

- Desirable Village Location
- Ideal Family Home
- Flowing Accommodation
- Close to Local Amenities
- Garage & Driveway Parking

Ladygrove OIEO £375,000

- Ladygrove Development
- Close to Amenities
- Close to Didcot Parkway
- Four Good Size Bedrooms
- Close to Orchard Shopping Centre

Kingston Bagpuize £250,000

- Ideal Investment Property
- Charming 1 Bed Stone Cottage
- Lovely Cottage Garden
- Working Feature Fireplace
- Excellent commuter links to Oxford M40

Central Abingdon OIEO £235,000

- Central Location
- 2 Bedrooms
- First Floor Apartment
- Allocated Parking
- Gas Central Heating

Central Abingdon £250,000

- Immaculate Condition Throughout
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Modern Fitted Kitchen
- Juliet Balcony
- Allocated Parking

Central Abingdon £320,000

- Close to Town Centre
- 3 Bedrooms
- Good Transport Links
- Fantastic Family Home
- Allocated Parking

North Abingdon £230,000

- North Abingdon Location
- Two Bedrooms
- Communal Gardens
- Allocated Parking Space
- Open-Plan Living Accommodation

OPEN HOUSE OIEO £375,000

- Detached Family Home
- Rear Extension and Sun Room
- Ideal Family Home
- Picturesque Views over Open Fields
- Easy Access to Abingdon/Oxford

OPEN HOUSE OIRO £300,000

- Excellent School Catchment
- Spacious Accommodation Throughout
- 2 Double Bedrooms
- Potential to Extend STP
- Driveway and Garage

North Abingdon OIRO £300,000

- 3 Bedrooms
- North Abingdon
- Ideal Starter Home
- Fantastic Long Rear Garden
- Great School Catchment

Berinsfield OIEO £270,000

- Open-Plan Living
- Immaculate Condition
- Garage
- Garden
- Ideal Family Home

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BICESTER

Buckingham Road £411,500

REDUCED

THIS STUNNING, UNIQUE DETACHED HOME LOCATED WITHIN 0.25 MILES OF BICESTER NORTH STATION. SET IN A GENEROUS PLOT WITH PRIVATE REAR GARDEN.

The Garden Quarter £385,000

DESIRABLE LOCATION

SUMMARYA fantastic opportunity to purchase a three bedroom property in the highly sought after development, The Garden Quarter. This three bedroom property is flooded with natural light throughout.

Brackley £399,950

NEW INSTRUCTION

Occupying a GENEROUS PLOT in this HIGHLY REGARDED cul de sac is this spacious family home. Very rarely to properties of this design come to market and it offers the discerning buyer a wealth of opportunities to extend and create their own family home.

Langford Village £480,000

DOUBLE GARAGE

Set in an enviable plot at the bottom of a desirable cul de sac is this light and spacious family home.

Meredith Close £325,000

NEW INSTRUCTION

A good size three double bedroom family property offering Kitchen/Diner, Cloakroom, Garage, Garden.
NO ABOVE CHAIN

Launton £535,000

VIEWING ADVISED

This extended home sits at the bottom of a cul de sac and enjoys stunning views over open fields. The property is well presented throughout and finished to a high standard.

155 Heron Drive £185,000

NEW INSTRUCTION

Ideal for first time buyers and investors alike is this much improved ground floor apartment. With re-fitted kitchen and re-fitted shower room and close to Bicester Village station.

Kestrel Way £265,000

NEW INSTRUCTION

Situated in a sought after Langford village development a good sized two bedroom mid terraced property with new bathroom and kitchen fitted, the property further benefits from front and rear gardens with parking for two vehicles.

Steeple Aston £269,950

VILLAGE LOCATION

This EXTENDED and MUCH IMPROVED home offers COUNTRYSIDE VIEWS all within easy distance of BICESTER NORTH STATION and the M40 MOTORWAY. Situated on a generous plot and offering spacious accommodation throughout.

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BANBURY

Middleton Cheney £599,995

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Banbury £260,000

*EPC C
*Three Bedroom End Of Terrace
Shower Room Ensuite
*Off Street Parking
*Close to Station & Town Centre

Banbury £345,000

*EPC E
*Refurbished*Corner Plot
*Open Plan Kitchen*Conservatory
*Off Street Parking*Garage
*Private Rear Garden

Middleton Cheney £550,000

*EPC C
*Detached Family Home
*Five Bedrooms
*South Facing Garden
*Village Location
*No Onward Chain

Adderbury £340,000

*EPC
*Four Bedroom Detached
*Mature Rear Garden
*Single Garage
*Off Street Parking

Banbury £375,000

*EPC F
*Four Bedrooms
*Period Property
*Garage

Banbury £265,000

*EPC D
*End of Terrace
*Three Bedrooms
*Maintained to High Standard
*Mature Rear Garden

Bloxham £280,000

*EPC B
*Three Bedrooms
*End Of Terrace
*Front & Rear Garden

Brackley £399,950

*EPC D
*Integral Double Garage
*Two Reception Rooms
*Study
*Spacious Gardens
*Off Street Parking

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33 Bridge Street, Banbury

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HANWELL FIELDS

Lord Fielding Close £189,950

EPC Rating: B
Top Floor Apartment
Two Double Bedrooms
Ideal investment opportunity

Lord Fielding Close £190,000

EPC Rating: C
Two bedroom Coach House
Own Garage with Power & Light
NHBC Warranty Remaining

Usher Drive £250,000

EPC Rating: C
Three good size bedrooms
Integral garage
Off road parking
En Suite Cloakroom

Sussex Drive £275,000

EPC Rating: C
Detached Family Home
South facing rear garden
Modern Kitchen
Rear aspect over trees

Malthouse Cottages £300,000

EPC Rating: C
Village Location
Three Bedroom Cottage
Spacious home with Ground floor extension

Thyme Close £325,000

EPC Rating: TBC
Good size three bedroom home
Popular design with Conservatory
Good size lounge & Kitchen/dining room
NO CHAIN

Horsham Close £345,000

EPC Rating: E
Corner Plot
Open Plan Kitchen
Conservatory
Garage
Private Rear Garden

Westhorpe Mews, Byfield £374,950

EPC Rating: C
Built in 2013
Latest Energy Efficient Heating and Air System
NO CHAIN

Membris Way OIEO £175,000

Sold in the 6 Week Challenge

EPC Rating: D
Two Bedroom Semi-Detached
Garage with Off-road Parking for Two Cars
Modern Kitchen Diner

Meldrum Court £180,000

Sold in the 6 Week Challenge

EPC Rating: E
End of Terrace
Re-fitted Kitchen with Granite Worksurfaces
NO CHAN

Melrose Court £190,000

Sold in the 6 Week Challenge

EPC Rating: C
Two Bedroom Mid-Terraced Home
Kitchen / Breakfast Room

Forgeway £210,000

Sold in the 6 Week Challenge

EPC Rating: TBC
Three Bedrooms
Lounge with Dining area
Conservatory
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CARTERTON

SHILTON PARK £180,000

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SHILTON PARK £190,000

Fantastic opportunity to purchase a 1st floor TWO double bedroom apartment on Shilton Park by local amenities. Modern decor throughout. EPC Rating AWAITED.

SHILTON PARK £245,000

Pretty Cotswold Stone terrace family home located on Shilton Park. With local shops and primary School nearby this really is a perfect family home. EPC Rating C.

SHILTON PARK £245,000

End of terrace home located on the Shilton Park development, with the added benefit of off street parking leading to garage to the side. EPC Rating AWAITED

SHILTON PARK £299,995

A well presented middle terraced town house located on 'Shilton Park'. Set over three levels this versatile property really would make the ideal family home. EPC Rating C.

The Clyde £POA

Beautifully designed family four bedroom detached home with double length driveway and garage.

CARTERTON £460,000

Larger than average detached bungalow with the added bonus of a one bedroom annex. Located in a popular Road close to all local amenities. EPC Rating AWAITED

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WITNEY

Church Street £360,000

A fantastic period cottage, located in the sought after village of Shipton-under-Wychwood. This family home boasts a spacious living room with an open fireplace, a kitchen diner and a generous rear garden. EPC Rating: D

Dark Lane £420,000

PRICE REDUCTION

A beautiful family home situated in a sought after location in Witney. The property has been kept to the highest standard and benefits from a modern fitted kitchen a lounge which looks onto the beautifully matured rear garden. EPC Rating: D

Witney £159,950

RETIREMENT HOME

This one bedroom second floor retirement flat is located close to Witney town centre. Built in 2009, this well designed purpose built flat is double glazed through-out with modern electric central heating. Residents need to be 60+ or if a couple, one resident needs to be at least 60 and the other 55+ years old. EPC Rating: B

Blakes Avenue £310,000

Cogges Development is an area beside the River Windrush in Witney, 0.5 miles east of the town centre. The property has been kept to a good standard and benefits from a modern fitted kitchen a lounge which has patio doors to rear garden. Situated in a sought after location within Witney.

Queen Emma's Dyke £375,000

ATTENTION TO PROPERTY DEVELOPERS

Unique opportunity to purchase this extended link detached house on a corner plot close to Witney town centre. Viewing is highly recommended to appreciate the size of this extended property and the scope for further improvement and development.

Manor Road £260,000

A well presented family home situated in a sought after location within Witney. This two bedroom family home briefly comprises of an entrance hall, lounge and kitchen. From the first floor landing there are two spacious bedrooms and a family bathroom.

Brize Norton OIEO £364,950

NO CHAIN

Situated in the heart of Brize Norton this four bedroom detached house comprises of a lounge, recently fitted kitchen, dining room, downstairs cloakroom and integrated garage. Upstairs there are four good sized bedrooms. Outside boasts a well maintained rear garden and a front garden with driveway parking for up to three vehicles. EPC Rating: D

Witney £210,000

ATTENTION INVESTERS & FIRST TIME BUYERS

Fantastic opportunity for first buyers and investors to purchase this two bedroom top floor flat situated in he centre of Witney. This spacious flat includes a fully fitted kitchen, lounge, two bedrooms and bathroom with economy 7 storage heaters throughout. There is one allocated parking space. EPC Rating: C

Witney £335,000

A fantastic opportunity to purchase this well presented three bedroom semi-detached property. Internally the property offers a living room, spacious kitchen/diner, cloakroom, three bedrooms and a family bathroom. Outside the property is a private landscaped rear garden, on street parking with an option of a driveway. EPC Rating: F

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OXFORD

Rose Hill — Guide Price £269,000

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK

This WELL PRESENTED modern TWO bedroom property is situated within the ring road. Built in 2009 and is still in a very good condition making it an ideal purchase for first time buyers or investors looking to move straight in without having to do any work.

EPC Rating: C

Greater Leys — £285,000

WELL PRESENTED two bed terrace in a quiet cul-de-sac. Garage and parking in a block, front and rear gardens, two bedrooms with built in wardrobes, gas central heating and fitted combination boiler. Ideal for first time buyers.

EPC Rating: C

Blackbird Leys — Offers Over £330,000

This three bedroom mid terraced property is deceptively spacious having been extended to the rear and a must view property.
EPC Rating: C

Greater Leys — Offers in Excess £255,000

Recently redecorated, this home offers an ideal first time buy or investment alike. Offered with no onward chain.

EPC Rating: C

Blackbird Leys — Guide Price £280,000

Three bedroom property with brand new kitchen installed. Outside you can have permit residential parking. Ideal FTB or investment.
EPC Rating: D

East Oxford — £225,000

A well-presented apartment in a popular location, one double bedroom with built in wardrobe, spacious lounge with modern fitted kitchen off. EPC Rating: E

Boars Hill — £195,000

RETIREMENT PROPERTY

An independent and sociable lifestyle in beautiful surroundings. Oxford Beaumont is a wonderfully elegant setting that is home to a vibrant retirement community. EPC Rating: F

We have a selection of other retirement properties - call us for further information. Tel: (01865) 748448

Garsington — £125,000

PARK HOME

Kings Copse park home estate provides a peaceful environment for residents over 55 years of age. The home currently offers three bedrooms and has a newly installed kitchen and a white bathroom suite. Vacant possession sale.

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OXFORD

East Oxford **Guide Price £600,000**

BEAUTIFUL VICTORIAN mid terrace benefiting from loft room and rear extension. With period features throughout this property offers a GREAT FAMILY HOME and is deceptively spacious. Insulation and modernisation work to the building has been completed to improve efficiency. Viewing advised.

EPC Rating: D

Florence Park **Offers over £500,000**

Located in the sought after area of FLORENCE PARK, this EXTENDED and WELL PRESENTED family home. Accommodation offers four bedrooms plus upstairs bathroom and separate shower room. Ground floor has a SPACIOUS lounge/dining room with oak flooring, further good sized reception room and fitted kitchen.
EPC Rating: D

Blackbird Leys **£425,000**

Substantial property ideal for large family or investment. Furbished to a great standard, currently arranged to allow seven bedrooms.
EPC Rating: D

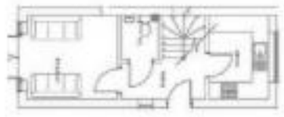
Florence Park **OIEO £392,000**

Extended family home recently refurbished with a double storey extension to rear, offered with no onward chain.
EPC Rating: D

East Oxford **£380,000**

Charming Victorian terrace which has undergone refurbishment, offering a well presented internal finish.
EPC Rating: D

Cowley **£350,000**



A spacious new home offering one bedroom and study, built to a high specification and located in the sought after area just off Westbury Cres.
EPC exempt

Oxford **£400,000**

This THREE BEDROOM bay fronted SEMI DETACHED offers families generous living space having two reception rooms, the second reception room extended to 23ft at the rear.
EPC Rating: D

Similar properties required, call us today to book your free valuation. Tel: (01865) 748448

Iffley **£400,000**

This MODERN THREE BEDROOM end terrace is situated in the ever popular area of Iffley borders and is offered with NO ONWARD CHAIN. The property boasts off-road parking, a 22ft lounge/dining room, fitted kitchen and downstairs cloakroom with 3 bedrooms one with en-suite and bathroom upstairs.
EPC Rating: D

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HEADINGTON

Marston £450,000

Three bedroom extended family home in this highly regarded side road situated within the Cherwell School catchment area. Offered with no onward chain this property has both a garage and off street parking.

Risinghurst £500,000

Available with no onward chain, this light, airy and spacious home is finished to a good standard. With balanced accommodation over two floors this property would make an ideal family home or investment opportunity.

Headington OIE £650,000

Presented in excellent order throughout, this unique property has substantial living space over two floors and an extensive mature garden. Suitable for extension (subject to planning) and conveniently located for access to local amenities and transport links

Headington £400,000

A well presented three bed family home well situated for the John Radcliffe Hospital & access to city centre in Colterne Close. Cherwell catchment area and good transport links, please call us to book your viewing.

Headington OIRO £500,000

Building Opportunity. A detached house set on a large plot with huge potential. Well placed for the John Radcliffe and close to the new development at Barton Park.

Tackley £450,000

With flexible accommodation over two floors this unique property is located in the sought after village of Tackley. A self contained annexe provides versatile accommodation that can be used as a separate flat or incorporated into the main house

Marston Road OIRO £440,000

Prime Marston location within the Cherwell catchment area providing easy access to the A40, JR Hospital and Brookes University. A 1930's property providing accommodation over two levels with a larger than average garden, with the potential to extend (STP).

Headington OIRO £215,000

Beautifully presented one bedroom ground floor flat with modern bathroom and fitted kitchen, this property would be ideal for investors and first time buyers. Book your viewing today.

Marston Road £475,000

Providing easy access to both Headington hospitals and Oxford city centre this house would make an ideal family home or investment opportunity

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THAME

Brill £600,000

A fabulous 3 bedroom detached period cottage that has been extensively modernised, upgraded and extended by the current owners to create a quintessential 'cottage in the country' in this sought after local village. This charming home combines contemporary living with an old English village feel and offers a wealth of features.

Longwick £525,000

A fantastic opportunity to purchase this marvellous large four bedroom semi-detached home located in the popular village of Longwick with countryside views to the front of the property. This home provides spacious accommodation with a good size gated driveway and large back garden.

Chinnor £320,000

A well presented two bedroom semi-detached home, built by Taylor Wimpy Homes c. 3 years ago that would make an ideal first time purchase.

Long Crendon £375,000

This mature three bedroom detached family home offers spacious and airy accommodation and is centrally located within the popular village of Long Crendon. Prospective purchasers should note that no onward chain is involved and that the owners selling agents can strongly advise an early internal inspection.

Waterstock £700,000

Lovingly refurbished and maintained by its current owner, the property is offered for sale with; a "farmhouse" kitchen, two well proportioned reception rooms, feature fireplace, exposed beams, mature and enclosed gardens along with off street parking.

Chinnor £530,000

A mature five bedroom detached family home that has been successfully extended in a location with manicured corner plot gardens that enjoy a southerly aspect.

Haddenham £550,000

This spacious accommodation is arranged over 3 floors, with en-suite shower rooms to 2 of the bedrooms along with attached garage and enclosed rear garden. Prospective purchasers will note that no onward chain is involved with the purchase of the property.

Thame £575,000

A four bedroom detached family home located in a small cul-de-sac of similar properties on this popular residential development. The property offers larger than average accommodation with separate reception rooms, full en-suite bathroom along with a south facing rear garden and a double width garage.

Chalgrove £425,000

A very well presented and well cared for four bedroom detached family home on the outskirts of this thriving Oxfordshire village. This lovely family home is offered for sale in pristine decorative order throughout having undergone a refurbishment only 4 years ago.

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MARTIN&CO

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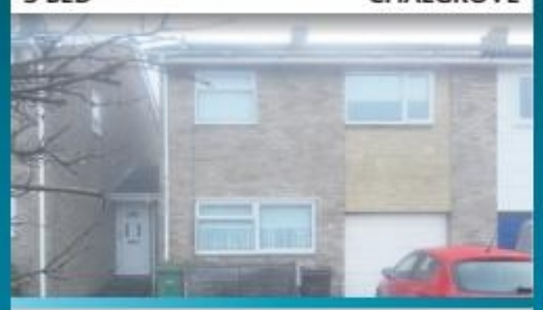
2 BED — **DIDCOT**

A two bedroom MID-TERRACE HOUSE in a quiet Cul-de-Sac location on the desirable Ladygrove development. The property is positioned in a very convenient location close to Didcot Parkway Station. **£255,000**

3 BED — **CHALGROVE**



This fabulous three bed SEMI DETACHED house CHALGROVE offers spacious living and benefits from a garage and garden. The property comes with gas central heating, new gas boiler, and can be offered with no onward chain. **£335,000**

2 BED — **LOWER RADLEY**

Situated in the lovely village of RADLEY in Oxfordshire, is this two bedroomed retirement park home. THE PROPERTY IS FOR THE OVER 50s, **£75,000**

1 BED — **ABINGDON**

One bedroom APARTMENT in this popular RETIREMENT development, with views over the immaculate well maintained communal gardens. **£150,000**

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3 BED — **SOUTHMOOR**

A well-presented 3 bedroom SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE located in the sought after village of SOUTHMOOR. The property has good access to the A420 and has good access for OXFORD, ABINGDON and WITNEY. **£1,050 PCM**

1 BED — **ABINGDON**

1st floor ONE BEDROOM TOWN CENTRE APARTMENT situated within an exclusive and private development. The property offers spacious accommodation and a private courtyard with secure bike storage. **£750 PCM**

3 BED — **BESSELSLEIGH**

A semi DETACHED period COTTAGE, set in an attractive RURAL area within the private estate and a working farm close to ABINGDON. The property is ideally located for good access to OXFORD and ABINGDON. **£1,200 PCM**

4 BED — **WANTAGE**

A large and SPACIOUS family semi detached HOUSE located in the market town of WANTAGE. The property offers spacious living accommodation and benefits from 3 reception rooms. **£1,200 PCM**

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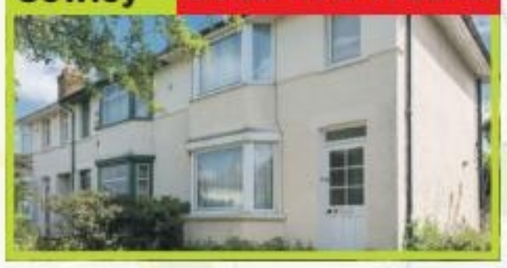

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Eynsham — FOR SALE

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Average rents in Oxford set to rise during 2017

Bill Cooper, co-author of The Oxford Property Blog and managing director of Martin and Co, Oxford

BACK in the spring of 2016, there was a surge in Oxford landlords buying buy to let property as they tried to beat George Osborne's new stamp duty changes, which kicked in on April 1.

During 2016 Oxford rents rose steadily and this is not likely to inverse any time soon, particularly as Government legislation planned for 2017 might reduce rental stock and push property values ever upward.

The decline of buy to let mortgage interest tax relief will make some buy to let properties lossmaking, forcing landlords to pass on costs to tenants in the form of higher rents just to stay afloat.

Even those who can still operate may be deterred from making further investments, reducing growth in rental stock at a time of severe shortage in Oxford.

But it's not all bad news for tenants. Whilst average rents in Oxford since 2005 have increased by 22.6 per cent, inflation has been 38.5 per cent over the same time frame, meaning Oxford tenants are 15.9 per cent better off in real terms when it comes to their rent.

The view I am trying to portray is that while renting is often portrayed as the unfavourable alternative to home ownership, many young Oxford professionals like renting as it gives them adaptability with their life.

Year	Average Rent PM	Year	Average Rent PM
2005	2020	2011	2249
2006	2077	2012	2300
2007	2123	2013	2334
2008	2193	2014	2369
2009	2227	2015	2421
2010	2196	2016	2490

But tenants have also had a good deal with below inflation increases in rents debunking the myth that landlords have profited from hiking rents above either inflation or the increases in costs of house ownership.

In reality, landlords have been prudent and cautious recognising that their tenants have been living through an economic downturn.

However, there is a tightrope for landlords to walk balancing the preservation of stable income from known tenants versus increasing rents above the long-term trend to re-balance their returns.

For more thoughts and opinions on the Oxford property market, visit the Oxford Property Blog at oxfordpropertyblog.co.uk.

MARTIN&CO

Longworth period home which has a contemporary feel inside

£750,000

• *From front page*

sympathetically designed to be in keeping with the age of the property and has been finished in a contemporary style and incorporates such modern comforts as a heated floor and integrated appliances.

The entrance hall provides access to a downstairs W/C and leads to the main rooms of the property.

The first floor of the house boasts an exceptional master suite due to its fitted wardrobes, feature bay window and modern en-suite with a bath, separate shower and heated floor.

The en-suite has a "Jack and Jill" arrangement of doors linking the master bedroom to the dressing room which could also be used as an additional bedroom.

The outside space consists of a 71 metre landscaped rear garden facing a southerly aspect and backing on to paddock land.

To arrange a viewing, contact selling agent Andrews of Abingdon on 01235 555553, or visit their website: andrews-online.co.uk.

Shared ownership offered on one, two and three bedroom homes at Didcot's Great Western Park site

HOUSING developer Aster Group is making home-ownership one step closer to reality for hundreds of professionals currently priced out of the market with the launch of a phase of new shared ownership homes at Didcot's Great Western Park.

Some 140 one-, two- and three-bedroom homes will be available during 2017 and into 2018 via Aster at Great Western – the 3,300-property development to the west of Didcot town centre – of which 96 are available through shared ownership.

Shared ownership allows buyers to buy a share in their own home and pay rent on the share that they don't own. This means that prospective homebuyers can take that all-important first step to joining the property ladder using a smaller deposit and mortgage.

It provides long-term security of tenure and offers buyers the opportunity to build equity in their home up to outright ownership.

At Great Western Park, a 40 per cent share of a £255,000 Aster house – worth £102,000 – can be bought with a deposit of just over £5,000.

Great Western Park is one of the largest developments of its kind in the UK. When it is completed – expected to be 2022 – alongside homes it will also have three schools, a college, a nursery, parks, community centres and retail space.

Martyn Blackman, development director at Aster Group, said: "Shared ownership is a great alternative to renting or full ownership so it might be suitable for you if you can't afford to buy your own home outright.

"It's not just first-time buyers or young people who can benefit – the average age of a shared ownership buyer is 35.

"There are no restrictions on the size of home you can buy or when you choose to sell up and move on."

For more information about Aster's homes at Great Western Park, visit buyanasterhome.co.uk.

PROPERTY WEEKLY

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NEW PROPERTY

Abingdon £375,000

Two bedroom town house within 0.2 miles of Abingdon town centre with neutral decor throughout. EPC Rating D.

NEW PROPERTY

Abingdon £279,950

Two bedroom house situated in the Dunmore area, within 0.3 miles of Long Furlong Primary School and Medical centre. EPC Rating D.

Marcham £400,000

A three bedroom family home with generous 16' sitting room. EPC Rating C

NEW PROPERTY

£315,000

A super 3 bedroom family home tucked away at the end of a cul-de-sac on the popular Peachcroft Development. EPC Rating C.

Abingdon £265,000

Natural light floods into this town centre two bedroom apartment, particularly in the dual aspect L-shaped lounge/diner. EPC Rating C.

NEW PROPERTY

Abingdon £295,000

A super three bedroom family home with neutral decor throughout, a modern kitchen and contemporary bathroom. EPC Rating C.

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Lower Radley £2,500 pcm

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Abingdon £1,050 pcm

Newly converted first & second floor duplex apartment in a fantastic location. Furnished.
Available: 3rd February

Abingdon £685 pcm

A stunning en-suite bedroom with a private shower room. Shared kitchen. Utilities included. Furnished.
No parking.
Available: Mid February

Kennington

A modern end-terrace house with conservatory in this popular residential cul-de-sac in Kennington. Two bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom with electric shower over bath, living room, conservatory. Unfurnished. Available 1st February

£1,100 pcm

Dorchester On Thames £1,395 pcm

A stunning grade II listed property with a beautiful mature garden in the centre of the picturesque village of Dorchester on Thames. Three bedrooms, bathroom with bath & separate shower cubicle, kitchen with white goods, large living room with working open fireplace, lots of storage cupboards, parking and pretty lawned gardens. Unfurnished/Furnished. Available Immediately

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Chipping Norton Oxfordshire

An invitation to view...

On Saturday 21st January from 10am to 4pm, Beechcroft will be launching a collection of show homes in Buchanan House at Penhurst Gardens, off New Street, Chipping Norton.

This is your opportunity to view the three-bedroom show house and the one and three-bedroom show apartments whilst enjoying a glass of champagne.

Buchanan House has been designed exclusively for the over 55s and is set in beautifully landscaped and fully maintained gardens in a convenient town centre location. The 11 converted homes are energy-efficient and easy to maintain and provide an estate management service. The neighbouring care home also offers additional services from daily meals to laundry and hairdressing.

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

'The boys are back in town'

By James Richings

AFTER disbanding in March last year, it looked like Nameless were no more.

The Oxford based covers band had been entertaining audiences in pubs, bars and clubs all over the county and beyond for over two decades, with the band being known for their renditions of classic rock tunes.

But when the vast majority of the group decided to call it quits as they wanted to perform indie tracks, it looked liked Nameless were history.

However, long lasting member John Prior was confident that he would find a group of musicians who were wiling to continue to produce classic rock sounds.

And after searching the entire county, he managed to find four musicians eager to make Nameless popular again, as the band are gearing up for their first show of 2017, which will be at the Berinsfield Social Club in Wallingford on Saturday, January 21.

Made up of John Prior on bass, Hamid Ghodssian on the guitar, rhythm guitarist Shaun Underwood, Billy Harping on vocals and Jeff Fuller on drums, the five friends will gig for the first time since their debut show in October.

And Hamid believes they'll make their mark in the local music scene once again this Saturday.

"We are known for rock covers so the audience can expect a lot of old tracks with new ones as well," he told the Guardian.

"We don't want to give too much away but songs such as Pinball Wizard, Hotel California, Smoke on the Water and The Boys are Back in Town are just some on our playlist.

"And If I had to choose my biggest musical influences, I personally would say Carlos Santana, Gary Moore, Eric Clapton, The Red hot Chilli Peppers."

Following the re-birth of the group, the band's comeback show took place on October 29 at the Railway Inn in Culham.

Shaky at first, the band got better as the night went on with the five musicians receiving a warm reception at the end of the gig.

So for John Prior, the only member of the original line-up, he hopes it will be more of the same this weekend.

"I thought we were one of the best covers band around to be honest with you," he said.

"And for the gig we did in October, some of the new members hadn't even performed live before so they were a bit petrified.

• *Hamid Ghodssian in action*

"But you could see their confidence growing as the gig went on, so we hope to continue with this."

Hamid added that he hopes Nameless's shows will inspire a younger generation of musicians to attend local gigs.

"I personally believe it is very important to go and watch live music," he said.

"If they (the younger generation) have an interest in live music, they should go and watch some shows as there's nothing like live music.

This is a free gig that will start at 9pm.

Feel good feline movie

FILM SCREENING: One of last year's feel good movies 'A Street Cat Named Bob' will be screened at The Chipping Norton Theatre on Sunday, January 22.

Based on a true story, the film is an adaption of the books written by James Bowen, which focus on his recovery as a drug addict in his early 20s.

Then, after finding a stray cat with an injured leg, he takes the hurt feline to the vet, and the twosome then form a special friendship that helps James get his life back on track.

Tickets cost £9.

Night with the medium

THRILLER: TV personality, medium and psychic Tony Stockwell will be at the Kenton Theatre in Henley on Wednesday, January 25.

Stockwell, who began his career as a medium at the age of 16, will show the crowd at the New Street venue how he communicates with the dead.

Tony is also a successful author.

Tickets cost £21 and the show starts at 7.30pm

Inspired by real life

THEATRE: A production that was inspired by the life of legendary singer Nina Simone is coming to the Oxford Playhouse on Saturday, January 21, at 7.30pm.

'Black Is The Color of My Voice', looks at how Simone, who was also a civil rights campaigner, is seeking redemption after the untimely death of her father.

Tickets from £11.50 to £18.

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Playing to the Pied Piper's tune

By James Richings

THE family fun tale of The Pied Piper will be brought to life at the Wallingford Corn Exchange.

Based on the popular story, which dates back to the 13th century, the fable is set in the German town of Hamelin, which is plagued with rats.

With the infestation getting worse, the people of Hamelin offer a bag of gold to anyone who can get the rats to leave.

A piper offers to do the job, and successfully lures the rats into a mirage of cheese, which eventually disappears.

Yet despite doing what was asked by the people of Hamelin, the residents were annoyed that all he did was play a tune to lead the rats away, and therefore only pay the piper pocket change, rather than the bag of gold.

Will the Pied Piper get his revenge? The ancient tale is being performed at the Market Place venue until Saturday, January 28, with the production being performed by the Sindoun Players, a group of actors who perform at the Corn Exchange.

And with the untraditional move of having a woman play the lead role, musician Sue Huntingford Ledger is looking forward to the challenge.

• *The cast rehearsing for The Pied Piper*

Huntingford Ledger is best known for her role as the musical director in the previous

"I love this idea," she said.

"I can improvise on the piccolo and have a really nice time.

"I love this role, it suits me really well."

The most well-known version of The Pied Piper was published by The Brothers Grimm back in 1816, and since then, it was been adapted for the big screen, stage and even for children's television shows.

And with this version being considered as a pantomime, actor Peter Smithson, who plays Dame Helga, believes it will a fun show for everyone who comes along.

"The dame is a great part because I get to play with the audience and get them going," he said.

"I also get to do slapstick but the main thing is the interaction with the audience."

The production will have a lot of familiar faces who perform within the Sindoun Players such as Fiona Huntingford Ledger who will play the village idiot Willy.

Tickets cost from £6 to £12 but please note, there are no performances on Sundays or Mondays.

• *Sue Huntingford Ledger rehearsing*

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For press releases about forthcoming events please email events@taylornewspapers.co.uk - (photos welcome) - specifying the area that the event is taking place in and we will do our best to promote it for you, space permitting, in one or more of our newspapers.

Thu, Jan 19, 7pm
The Beacon, Wantage
OPERA ON FILM: TURANDOT

A Met Opera Production with incredible stage design and featuring 'Nessun Dorma' the famous tenor aria.

Thu, Jan 19, 7.30pm
Oxford Playhouse, Oxford
THE REMAINS OF TOM LEHRER
The satirical songs of Tom Lehrer have delighted and horrified audiences for decades, both through his own rare, acerbic performances and in the revue format of the West End and New York hit show Tomfoolery.
Following sell-out London shows, Adam Kay sets out on his debut UK tour with his new take on Lehrer's songbook. Everything from pigeon

poisoning to masochistic tango via nuclear oblivion are revisited from the contemporary perspective of this award-winning performer.

Fri, Jan 20, 9pm
New Theatre, Oxford
GHOST HUNT
Enter a mysterious and intriguing supernatural world with 'Haunted Houses' at the New Theatre. Be one of the first to venture after dark, exploring hidden secrets within the stone walls of the oldest theatre in Oxford.

Sat, Jan 21
New Theatre, Oxford
BARRY STEELE & FRIENDS
Barry Steele is widely recognised as one of the world's leading vocalists playing homage to legend Roy Orbison. He has stunned audineces across the globe with his uncanny similarity and ability to authentically revive the exquisite toe tapping sound of this music giant.

Sun, Jan 22, 11am and 2pm
The Beacon, Wantage,
BURGLAR BILL
Capturing the spirit of the book, and with an exciting set featuring lots of windows to climb through, Burglar Bill and Burglar Betty tell this much loved story with the help of puppets, music, song and dance. Burglar Bill has delighted families for nearly forty years. Children aged three plus, and their parents and grandparents will love this show.

Sun, Jan 22, 2pm
Cornerstone Arts Centre, Didcot
THE BEAR
One night when she's fast asleep, an enormous snowy white bear climbs into Tilly's bedroom. It has a big black tongue and a yawn as big as your head. But Tilly's not scared. With dazzling puppetry, dreamy storytelling and dozens of laughs, The Bear is an unforgettable experience for the whole family.Bring your bear, and join Tilly on a magical adventure.

Tue, Jan 24 – Thu, Jan 26
New Theatre, Oxford
MICHAEL FLATLEY'S LORD OF THE DANCE
Following the phenomenal success of the 2015 UK tour, Michael Flatley's Lord of the Dance: Dangerous Games is excited to announce a return to the UK in 2017 for a 23 city Nationwide tour. Fresh from hugely successful runs in the West End, Broadway, Europe and the Southern Hemisphere, Lord of the Dance: Dangerous Games continues to thrill audiences around the globe with its intoxicating mix of dance and music that fuses the traditional with the contemporary in a classic tale that showcases the exceptional talent of the cast.

Wed, Jan 25, 6pm
O2 Academy, Oxford
THE HUNNA
The story of The Hunna's ascent has truly been one of a kind. Since bursting onto the music scene, the

Hertfordshire four-piece have sold out headlines shows around the world, amassed nearly 10 million Spotify streams and released their debut album, 100.

Wed, Jan 25, 7.30pm
Kenton Theatre, Henley
TONY STOCKWELL
It's not creepy or kooky, mysterious or spooky. It's Psychic Medium Tony Stockwell demonstrating his belief that those who have passed on can communicate with their loved ones. At its best, Mediumship has the potential to change someone's life and to instil in them a sense of peace, comfort and purpose.

Wed, Jan 25 – Sat, Jan 28
Oxford Playhouse, Oxford
EDWARD II
University of Oxford students present a new version of Christopher Marlowe's political thriller. England. The King is dead and his son, Edward II, now sits on the throne, full of radical ideas and driven by a forbidden passion. Torn between his wife, the powerful nobles and his banished lover, Piers Gaveston, Edward is a King caught between love and leadership. Taking inspiration from the tensions created by the fall of the USSR, this production interrogates the relationship between public and private, personal and political. It explores a world where battles are fought behind closed doors and where betrayal is everywhere.

Thu, Jan 26, 7.30pm
Old Fire Station, Oxford
HOPE & SOCIAL
Hope and Social are a band who do things a little bit differently. They wear blue jackets and play mind-blowing, balls-to-the-floor, anything-for-a-laugh, much-more-for-a-tear, heart-on-your-sleeve, foot-on-your-monitor gigs.

Fri, Jan 27, 7.30pm
New Theatre, Oxford
JOHNNY CASH ROADSHOW
The UK's No1 Tribute, fronted by respected singer/songwriter Clive John, with The Spirit Band, re-create with astounding accuracy and truly capture the essence of what it was like to be at a real Cash show! Featuring Amanda Stone as June Carter and two more talented ladies as the Carter Sisters, all aspects of Cash's life are covered with impeccable taste.

Sat, Jan 28, 2.30pm
Kenton Theatre, Henley
BYE BYE BABY
From their beginning in the early 1950s, when Frankie first joined the group, this tribute show celebrates the greatest hits from the West End and Broadway Smash Hit Musical, such as Beggin; Big Girls Don't Cry; Walk Like A Man; Lets Hang On; Who Loves You; December '63 (Oh What A Night); Bye Bye Baby; Can't Take my Eyes off You; Fallen Angel and Grease, climaxing with the finale of a medley of their greatest hits.

Sat, Jan 28, 2.30pm
The Theatre, Chipping Norton
BRR! THE STORY OF THE PENGUIN WHO DOESN'T LIKE THE COLD
Brrr! is the touching tale of Steve, an Antartic Penguin who doesn't much like the cold. Come on a magical journey as we join Steve on his adventure to visit his cousins in sunny South Africa. But how will he get there? It's too far to waddle and Steve can't fly. Thankfully Steve has a Ukulele, and the help of some wonderful friends, including a rather strange creature who falls from the sky right into his garden.

Sat, Sat 28, 7.30pm
Cornerstone Arts Centre, Didcot
LEE NELSON –SERIOUS JOKE
After getting into trouble for sneaking into places he shouldn't, Lee Nelson is back where he most definitely should be: live on stage with his brand-new, laugh-outloud, best ever stand-up show.
Come and experience Lee's Work in Progress; a unique opportunity to see him perform some brand new material in an intimate venue for not much money, before it's any good!

Sat, Sat 28, 7.30pm
Old Fire Station, Oxford
THE ANTI SLAM
The Anti-Slam returns to Oxford for its fourth glorious year. Contrary to a conventional slam, where the poet with the best poem and most authentic performance is judged the winner, the Anti-Slam crowns the worst poet with the lowest score as its champion.

Sun, Jan 29, 6pm
The Theatre, Chipping Norton
PHIL BEER
Phil Beer is the multi-instrumental half of the award winning acoustic duo, Show of Hands, described as a true craftsman, a master musician and consummate performer. With a professional career of over 36 years, Phil has a great deal of material to draw on for his solo appearances. All are songs and music of memory and significance sung in the subtle and melodic Phil Beer style and interjected with musings and amusings to an almost personal audience.

Mon, Jan 30 – Sat, Feb 4
Oxford Playhouse, Oxford
STEWART LEE: CONTENT PROVIDER
Following his BAFTA-winning TV show Stewart Lee's Comedy Vehicle, Content Provider is Stewart's new full-length show, the first since the award-winning Carpet Remnant World. Stewart Lee is one of the UK's most accomplished

writers and performers. When only 22, he won the Hackney Empire New Act of the Year award. He co-wrote the audacious Jerry Springer: The Opera, which won four Olivier Awards. And he's recently won the Best Male TV Comic and Best Comedy Entertainment Performance at the British Comedy Awards.

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Fiat 500S well worth it

By **Tony Yates**

I HAVE owned an Abarth 500 for about four years now – and as it was starting to show its age a little, I thought I would go out and buy the newer version because to be honest I really don't want to buy anything else when the little Abarth suits me just fine – also for the simple reason that it happens to be one of the best small cars money can buy.

So when Fiat offered me a test in the updated 500S – I thought 'oh god it's going to be slow and nothing like my 500 Abarth'.

Well I am happy to report that it's just as much fun to drive as my car - so here is a quick rundown of what you can expect.

Power and Efficiency

The little 500S I had on test was powered by a 1.3 MultiJet Diesel engine that has 95hp. Top speed comes in around 112mph and a 0-62 time of 10.7sec. Being a Diesel, it does have quite a tidy amount of torque – and being a small car it will get you to where you want go quite quickly and with little fuss.

Fuel consumption – Well that's the best and most pleasing part here. On a combined cycle it returned around 65mpg – I'm not joking either– the little Fiat just sips away saving you bundles of cash and this again is just another reason why I like the little Fiat so much.

On the road

I will keep it simple here; the little 500 is the perfect car to scoot about in – because it's poised, easy to park and you will always have a little smile on your face every time you drive it. Ok, it's a little 'bouncy' but that's all the fun of the Fiat. Into the corners it's just as good as the next best small car, and just as much fun as my old Mini Clubman.

Design & Technology

Inside, the 500S is enhanced by black seats and a black roof lining which contrast with the door panels and the seat edges. There is also "Satin Graphite" detailing on the dashboard fascia and a special sports steering wheel. The interior can also be trimmed with a whole host of options to help you design your own unique little space.

A full-colour TFT instrument display with reconfigurable settings is standard on the new 500S along with FIAT's new UconnectTM 7-inch HD LIVE touch screen with tablet-like controls and a high resolution display also as standard. This system offers a wide range of functions, including Bluetooth hands-free system, voice recognition, Bluetooth streaming, USB connection and a DAB digital and FM/ AM radio.

To sum up

If you remember the good old days of a proper Mini and want to re-kindle the art of having fun while driving, then pop down to your local Fiat dealer and order a 500S. I promise you that you will not be disappointed no matter what version you decide on.

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• Fiat 500 S

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Colour: Silver
MOT: May 2017
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Year: 2012
Miles: 83,500
MOT: Oct 2017
Colour: Met Black
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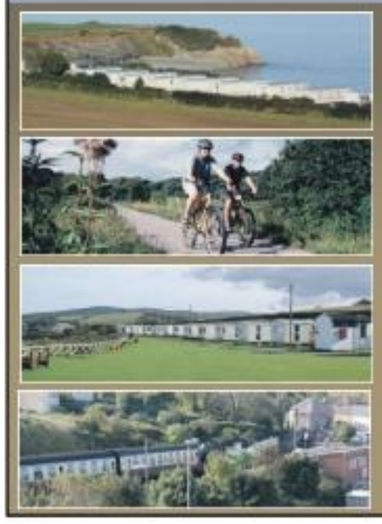

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Any person who wishes to make a representation in relation to this application must give notice in writing to: **Licensing Team, 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Abingdon, OX14 4SB** to be received by no later than 8th February 2017 stating the grounds for making said representation.

A record of the application can be inspected on the Council's website www.southoxon.gov.uk or at the above address during office hours.

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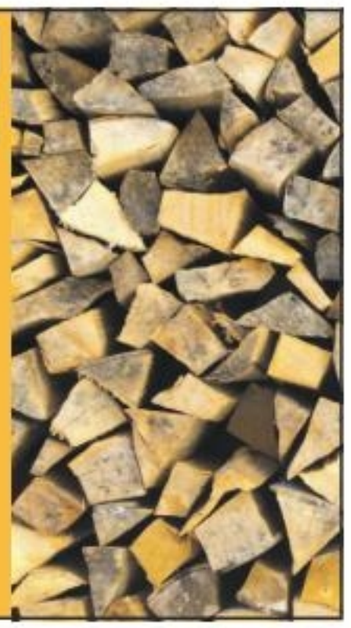

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Dons do the double over U's as United let slip early lead

By George Welch

ROB Hall's second goal of the season was not enough to prevent Oxford United's first ever defeat at AFC Wimbledon on Saturday.

The winger scored just six minutes in but U's let the early lead slip in London as Wimbledon strolled to a 2-1 win to complete the Dons' first ever home win and double over the Yellows.

United had beaten their hosts eight times and drawn with them twice in the 10 meetings between the sides before this season.

Wimbledon beat Oxford for the first time in their history at the Kassam Stadium in October, ending the U's unbeaten home record in the process.

But United looked to assert their superiority again when Hall gave Michael Appleton's side an early lead.

The former West Ham United trainee picked up the ball from influential skipper John Lundstram, switched the ball into space and flashed a 25-yard effort past home keeper James Shea into the bottom right corner of the net.

It was the 23-year-old's second league goal for United since returning to first team action in November. He joined the club last summer from Bolton Wanderers when recovering from a ruptured anterior cruciate ligament picked up in training in April last year.

And having played more than 30 times for Wimbledon's bitter rivals MK Dons across two loan spells, the goal was more memorable for the former England youth international.

United were pegged back six minutes later when Dean Parrett fired from a similar distance as Hall. The Wimbledon midfielder needed more luck though as the ball struck the woodwork, bounced off the back of United stopper Simon Eastwood and into the net.

The Dons netted what proved to be the winner on the half hour mark when an unmarked header from Sean Kelly ended United's six match unbeaten record on the road and propelled Wimbledon above Oxford in the SkyBet League 1 table.

Dons boss Neal Ardley admitted afterwards he was disappointed his side failed to score more goals and Eastwood made several key saves to keep Oxford in the match.

United had shown character to stay in the game but only truly found their rhythm in the last 15 minutes as the home side chased, harried and closed them down all over the pitch.

The visitors were inches away from a point when sub Kane Hemmings flicked a Marvin Johnson cross just the wrong side of the post eight minutes from time.

The U's are on the road again on Saturday when they travel to Rochdale.

• Rob Hall in action for United Picture: Steve Daniels

All quiet on the transfer front

OXFORD United are reportedly closing in on their first new signing of the January transfer window while two youngsters have left the club.

A player that head coach Michael Appleton has tried to sign before from a higher division is expected to sign for the club on loan in the next couple of days.

The only transfer activity into the Kassam Stadium so far this window has been the extension of Chesterfield defender Charlie Raglan's loan deal, which will see the imposing centre half stay with Oxford until the end of the season.

But it has been confirmed that West Brom prodigy Tyler Roberts won't be returning for a second loan at Oxford United.

The forward, who turned 18 on Thursday last week, is being sent to United's SkyBet League One rivals Shrewsbury for the remainder of the campaign.

Roberts, who made his last appearance for United in a 1-0 win at Gillingham on January 2, scored twice in 22 appearances in an Oxford shirt.

The Wales youth international tweeted his goodbyes to the club on Monday: "Thank you to everybody at Oxford United for making my time there so enjoyable. All the best for the rest of the season."

Meanwhile, young U's midfielder Josh Ashby has extended his loan deal at Oxford City.

The 20-year-old has made 15 appearances for City this season and will remain at Court Place Farm until the end of the season.

Appleton said: "Josh has done well there. It's obviously local so we can monitor his progress and keep an eye on him, and I'm sure he will want to play as many games as possible and impress in the second half of the season."

• Tyler Roberts scored 2 goals in 22 Oxford appearances, most as a substitute Picture: Steve Daniels

New director joins U's board

OXFORD United have announced the appointment of a new director – Oxford University professor and United fan Lionel Tarassenko.

Prof Tarassenko, a U's fan for over 30 years, was appointed to the club's board on Friday. He is currently head of the Department of Engineering Science at Oxford University and sits on the University Council.

As well as being a pre-eminent research scientist, the club said Prof Tarassenko also has extensive experience of running major projects, fundraising and developing national and international partnerships.

United chairman Darryl Eales said: "Lionel and I have developed a good relationship over the past 12 months and it is a privilege that he has agreed to join the board.

"Lionel will bring a wealth of local, national and international knowledge and experience to the Board as we seek to take the club forward both on and off the pitch."

Prof Tarassenko said: "I have been a fan since 1983-4 when I was doing my doctorate at the John Radcliffe Hospital and started going to the Manor Ground next to the hospital.

"I have watched the club in five divisions, from the old First Division to the Conference, and have been a season ticket holder since 2002/3.

"I look forward to working closely with the Chairman and bringing my University expertise to help the development of the club in a number of areas."

Tickets on sale for FA Cup and Checkatrade

TICKETS have been selling well for Oxford United's Emirates FA Cup 4th round tie against either Birmingham City or Newcastle United.

As of 2pm on Monday 3,520 tickets had been sold for the game at the Kassam Stadium on Saturday, January 28, at 3pm.

United found out their 4th round opponents last night as we went to press as Birmingham travelled to the north east for the replay following the 1-1 draw earlier this month.

Tickets are also on sale for United's Checkatrade Trophy quarter-final tie against Bradford City.

The game at the Kassam Stadium is on Tuesday with kick off at 7.45pm.

The North Stand will be closed for home supporters, as will the end blocks of the East Stand, the South Stand Lower and the South Stand Upper.

The Yellows will also take on Kidlington in the quarter-final of the Oxfordshire Senior Cup next month.

United, the current holders, enter the competition at this stage each year and will travel to Yarnton Road on Wednesday, February 8.

Meanwhile, the U's allocation of tickets for the SkyBet League One game at local rivals Swindon Town on Sunday, February 5 is sold out.

Tickets were snapped up instantly by season ticket holders last week and didn't make it to general sale.

OXFORD United Women start the new WSL Spring Series with a home game, taking on Everton at Abingdon United's Northcourt Road on Sunday, February 12 at 2pm.

This is a week after the women's opening WFA Cup game at Coventry United Women.

United also conclude the Spring Series – a mini-season designed to fill the gap between last year's WSL summer league and the new winter league format in September – with a home game, when Doncaster Rovers Belles are the visitors on Sunday, May 21. The full schedule is as follows:

Feb 5	Coventry United (A) WFAC - ko: TBC
Feb 12	Everton (H) - 2pm
Feb 19	Cup game - TBC
Feb 26	Brighton & Hove (A) - 2pm
Mar 4	London Bees (A) - 2pm
Mar 12	Aston Villa (H) - 2pm
Apr 2	Durham (A) - 12 noon
Apr 15	Sheffield (A) - 4pm
Apr 23	Millwall (A) - 2pm
Apr 30	Watford (H) - 2pm
May 21	Doncaster Belles (H) - 2pm

Season ticket details will be announced shortly.

Caretaker boss 'disappointed' after draw at Concord

City throw away lead... three times

By George Welch

OXFORD City caretaker boss Mark Jones said he was left "feeling disappointed" after the Hoops threw away a winning position three times in a 3-3 draw at Concord Rangers on Saturday.

Mike Fondop, Matt Peake-Pijnen and Stephane Ngamvoulou put City ahead of their Canvey Island hosts on three occasions, but were pegged back each time they got their noses in front.

A strike from winger Lyle Della Verde and two second half Steve Cawley penalties left the temporary City manager a frustrated figure.

Speaking after the game, Jones reflected on a disappointing outcome with a sprinkling of positives.

He said: "Overall I'm feeling disappointed that we've been up three times in the game but we couldn't quite see it out to get three points.

"There were two penalties given against us which I felt were a little bit soft: I can perhaps understand the ref giving one but we felt a little bit hard done by.

"We just felt a little disappointed that we couldn't get the three points after leading three times."

Jones, who has overseen three wins, a draw and a defeat, said he is concerned by his team's inability to keep the opposition shut out.

He said: "You could say it's pleasing to get a point away from home but we've scored five goals in the last two games and only come out with one point which is concerning.

"We need to get our defensive shape right, we need to stop the goals going in against us to be able to start winning games."

Concord were winless in five but posed a constant threat to City's leaky backline.

Jones praised their hosts, saying: "I felt that Concord played above their league position – I've seen them play a few times this season and I think they are better than a bottom three side and I don't expect them to be there at the end of the season.

"Their front two showed a lot of good movement and caused us problems."

The Hoops, who are unbeaten in the two home games under Jones, host Bath City on Saturday.

It will be the fourth meeting between the sides this season, with City winning, losing and drawing the three fixtures.

• Mike Fondop in action for Oxford City (Picture by Michael Allen)

Late drama as Didcot are denied victory

DIDCOT Town picked up their third successive draw on Saturday, although not without drama towards the end.

It ended 1-1, with Wimborne equalising in the 90th minute and Didcot having a penalty saved deep into injury time.

It was the visitors who scored first after 18 minutes when a through ball found its way to Sam Barder, who calmly slotted home past Wimborne keeper Gerrard Benfield.

There were few chances for most of the match, with Didcot being able to hang on to their narrow lead.

But in the 90th minute Wimborne pulled level when Didcot keeper Leigh Bedwell came out of his goal to collect the ball, only to have it tapped past him by Robinson Okumu.

There was still more drama to come though, as Wimborne captain Billy Maybury was sent off for a deliberate handball to prevent Didcot's second, with the Railwaymen duly being awarded a penalty.

Yet after scoring all his spot kicks so far this season, Ben Whitehead's effort on Saturday was calmly saved.

• Oxford City Stars in action against Solent Devils (Picture courtesy of Oxford City Stars)

Stars end winless run; get thumped again

OXFORD City Stars won their first game since November before being hammered in what was a mixed weekend for Simon Anderson's men.

The Stars last tasted victory on November 19 when they beat Milton Keynes Thunder 3-1.

Oxford then went on a dismal run of six consecutive defeats and a draw before winning their first match of 2017 7-0 at Streatham on Saturday.

But you would not have thought the Stars were on a miserable run against the London side when six different Oxford scorers was the difference in an impressive City display.

Jaroslav Cesky gave the visitors the lead in the first period before the floodgates opened in the second period.

Darren Elliot (23 mins), Ben Paynter (30), Dominic Hopkins (33), Joe Edwards (33) and Hallam Wilson (40) all found the back of the net for Oxford in a 17-minute period.

Edwards grabbed his second of the evening two minutes into the third period to complete the riot.

But the joy of victory was short lived as a day later, Solent Devils terrorised the Stars in a 10-4 defeat at the Oxford Ice Rink.

Despite taking the lead through Elliot on six minutes, hat-trick hero Alex Murray, Mark Pitts and Richard Facey fired the Devils in to a 3-1 lead by the end of the first period.

Andrew Campbell, Murray and Facey added three more for the visitors in the second period – the Stars could only respond with a Wilson strike to make it 6-2 heading into the last period.

Brendan Baird did claw two goals back for Anderson's side but they were overpowered by further strikes from Murray, Mason Wild and an Aidan Doughty brace.

The weekend win and defeat leaves the Stars mid-table in the NIHL South 1 after 18 matches.

They have a week off before a run of three home games sees City welcome Invicta Dynamos, Bracknell Hornets and Milton Keynes Thunder between January 29 and February 11.

Oxfordshire Cricket Club appoint their new captain

OXFORDSHIRE Cricket Club has appointed its new captain and vice-captain ahead of the 2017 season.

Jonny Cater has been selected as captain of the senior men's first team for the upcoming campaign, with Lloyd Sabin appointed as vice captain.

Cater takes up his new position following former captain Luke Ryan who stood down in November last year.

The club said 27-year-old Cater "was the clear choice to take on the role" having been vice captain for past three years.

The wicket-keeper batsman has made 50 county appearances since making his debut in 2011.

'Cat', who said he was "honoured" to be offered the role, has scored 2,619 runs including 17 half centuries and five centuries during this period and has taken 90 catches and made 17 stumpings.

Sabin will deputise as his vice-captain and the 22-year-old has played 55 times for Oxfordshire in either the Unicorns Championship or Trophy, scoring 2,135 runs including 12 half centuries and three hundreds in the process.

Oxfordshire Cricket chairman Chris Clements said: "I am delighted that Jonny has accepted the role as Oxfordshire's captain in all forms of the game, he has an incredible hunger for the role and has always impressed when standing in as captain in recent years.

"He is a deeply committed individual who will no doubt look to continue the recent period of success Oxfordshire have enjoyed."

• Jonny Cater has been appointed to replace Luke Ryan

F1 round-up

Principal out

RENAULT: Team principal Fred Vasseur has left the Enstone-based team, it was announced last week.

Vasseur joined Renault ahead of the 2016 season, and oversaw their first campaign since buying out Lotus at the end of the previous year.

No replacement has been announced, with the team continuing to be managed by Renault president Jerome Stoll and managing director Cyril Abiteboul.

A statement from Renault said: "Both parties remain committed to maintaining the good working relationship they have enjoyed and expect this to take a new form sometime in the future."

E for Esteban

FORMULA E: Former Haas driver Esteban Gutierrez is to drive in Formula E, starting in his home country of Mexico on April 1.

The 25-year-old was dropped from the Banbury-based team at the end of 2016, following a disappointing year where he failed to score any points.

It is not yet known what team he will drive for in Formula E, the electric single seater racing series that began in 2014.

Lowe leaves

MERCEDES: Paddy Lowe has left his role as executive technical director of Mercedes, ahead of an anticipated move to Grove-based Williams.

He has been placed on gardening leave, while Mercedes' technical organisation will continue under its current directors.

Lowe said: "I am looking forward to a new challenge and wish everyone well at Mercedes."

Manor offer?

MANOR: An offer has been made to buy the Manor Formula One team, according to Autosport.

It is reporting that administrators FRP Advisory LLP are talking to a number of interested parties about buying the team, with one having made an offer.

Nothing has so far been confirmed by the administrators or the team.

Just Racing Services, the company that operates Manor, went into administration earlier this month, with a buyer needing to be found in the next couple of weeks.

Wehrlein moves

SAUBER: Ex-Manor driver Pascal Wehrlein has been confirmed as the new driver at Sauber, replacing Felipe Nasr.

Wehrlein scored Manor's only point last year, and had been touted as a possible replacement for Nico Rosberg at Mercedes before joining Sauber. Wehrlein said: "It is a new challenge in a new team, and I am really excited and looking forward to this new adventure."

• *June 21, 2014 – Massa takes his first pole position in more than five years after setting a stunning lap in Austria*

Felipe Massa Q&A: His thoughts on F1 return

FELIPE Massa was finally confirmed as a Williams driver for 2017, just months after having announced his retirement from Formula One. Here's what he had to say about it.

Q: You said at the end of last season that you felt it was the right time to retire from Formula One. What has changed?

A: My intention was always to race somewhere, as I still have the passion for racing and competing. I also have a strong love for Williams as I have enjoyed the last three years with the team, and therefore coming back to help give stability and experience to drive things forward in 2017 was something that felt right to do.

Q: Could you have looked at other opportunities to stay in Formula One, if you were still open to the idea?

A: I have a passion for racing, for competing and for fighting on the track. My return is not about seeing Formula One as the best option, but is about seeing the role at Williams as the best option. I would not have returned for any other team.

Q: You left the sport on such a high at the end of last season, is there a danger that you won't get the same reception now you have returned?

A: The scenes I saw in Brazil and Abu Dhabi last year are ones that I will never forget. I am so grateful for everything that happened last year and all the kind messages. Whatever happens this season, I will always leave the sport with my head held high.

Q: How does it feel to be replacing your old team-mate Valtteri?

A: Going to the current world champions is a great opportunity for Valtteri. He is a talented racer and it was great working alongside him for three years. I wish him all the best for the next chapter of his career.

Q: What are your thoughts and hopes for 2017?

A: It's going to be an exciting year with all the regulation changes and I'm going to be spending lots of time with the team now preparing for the season. It's too soon to make predictions as we haven't even turned a wheel, but I can say that I'm very much looking forward to driving the FW40 when testing begins next month.

Q: Williams is celebrating 40 years in Formula One this year, are you looking forward to being part of that?

A: Yes, very much. Williams has such great history in the sport and reaching this milestone is a fantastic achievement. I know the team has more plans to celebrate this year and I'm looking forward to being part of them.

All pictures courtesy of Williams Martini Racing

• *November 13, 2016 – After crashing at his home race, Massa walked back to the pits to a standing ovation from fans and other team members*

• *November 23, 2014 – A spirited drive sees Massa challenge for victory as he finishes second in Abu Dhabi, with Valtteri Bottas third*

• *September 6, 2015 – In what is at the moment his last Formula One podium, Massa held off Bottas to take third at the Italian Grand Prix*

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Massa is back in the driving seat

• Felipe Massa was confirmed at Williams for 2017 on Monday (Picture courtesy of Williams Martini Racing)

"I certainly have not lost any enthusiasm for racing and I'm extremely motivated to be coming back – the support from my fans over the last few weeks has been a huge boost and I'm grateful for"

Williams F1 driver Felipe Massa

By Adam Flinn

FELIPE Massa will come out of retirement to race for Williams in 2017 on a one-year deal, it was confirmed on Monday.

The Brazilian rejoins the team he had left at the end of last season to replace Valtteri Bottas, who has moved to Mercedes to fill the gap left by the shock departure of world champion Nico Rosberg.

The move had been rumoured for weeks but was finally made official on Monday, with Massa teaming up alongside 18-year-old rookie Lance Stroll.

Massa said: "Firstly, I am very happy to have an opportunity to return to Williams.

"I always intended to race somewhere in 2017, but Williams is a team close to my heart and I have respect for everything it is trying to achieve.

"I certainly have not lost any enthusiasm for racing and I'm extremely motivated to be coming back – the support from my fans over the last few weeks has been a huge boost and I'm grateful for that.

"I also look forward to working with Lance. I've known him for many years and seen his talent develop during that time, so I look forward to seeing what we can achieve together."

Massa announced his retirement during the Italian Grand Prix weekend in September, when it became clear there wouldn't be a place for him with the team in 2017.

However Rosberg's retirement days after being crowned world champion saw Mercedes make a move for Bottas.

And with Williams needing a driver over the age of 25 owing to their sponsorship deal with Martini, Massa was drafted back in.

Deputy team principal Claire Williams said: "I'm delighted that Felipe has agreed to come out of retirement.

"With Valtteri having a unique chance to join the current constructors' champions, we have been working hard to ensure that an agreement could be made with Mercedes to give him this fantastic opportunity.

"Felipe has always been a much-loved member of the Williams family, and having the opportunity to work with him again is something we all look forward to."

The 2017 season begins in Australia on March 26.

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